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KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

TIME-TABLE.

On and after APRIL 7th, 1930, until Further Notice (all previous
Time Tables cancelled).

UP TRAINS

STATIONS	No. 1 A.M.	No. 2 A.M.	No. 3 A.M.	No. 4 A.M.	No. 5 A.M.	No. 6 A.M.	No. 7 A.M.	No. 8 A.M.	No. 9 A.M.	No. 10 A.M.	No. 11 A.M.	No. 12 P.M.	No. 13 P.M.	No. 14 P.M.	No. 15 P.M.	No. 16 P.M.	No. 17 P.M.	No. 18 P.M.	No. 19 P.M.	No. 20 P.M.	No. 21 P.M.	No. 22 P.M.	No. 23 P.M.
Kowloon Dep.	8.15	9.00	9.34	9.50	10.00	10.10	10.20	10.30	10.40	10.50	11.00	11.10	11.20	11.30	11.40	11.50	12.00	12.10	12.20	12.30	12.40	12.50	1.00
Yau Ma Tei Dep.	8.44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shatin Dep.	8.58	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tai Po Dep.	9.10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tai Po Market Dep.	9.15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fanning Dep.	9.25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sham Shui Dep.	9.30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sham Chun Dep.	9.35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canton Arr.	11.58	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

DOWN TRAINS

STATIONS	No. 1 A.M.	No. 2 A.M.	No. 3 A.M.	No. 4 A.M.	No. 5 A.M.	No. 6 A.M.	No. 7 A.M.	No. 8 A.M.	No. 9 A.M.	No. 10 A.M.	No. 11 A.M.	No. 12 P.M.	No. 13 P.M.	No. 14 P.M.	No. 15 P.M.	No. 16 P.M.	No. 17 P.M.	No. 18 P.M.	No. 19 P.M.	No. 20 P.M.	No. 21 P.M.	No. 22 P.M.	No. 23 P.M.
Canton Dep.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sham Chun Dep.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sham Shui Dep.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fanning Dep.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tai Po Market Dep.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tai Po Dep.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shatin Dep.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yau Ma Tei Dep.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kowloon Arr.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

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- 7.—Roast New Potatoes
- 8.—Boiled Potatoes
- 9.—Marrow
- 10.—Mixed Fruit Jolly
- 11.—Fruit 12.—Tea 13.—Coffee

LIQUOR AND TOBACCO TAX-DODGERS

SECRET PIT AT KOWLOON BAY.

THE WILY OPIUM AND ARMS SMUGGLER.

In his report for 1929, which has just been published, the Superintendent of Imports and Exports has some very interesting remarks to make on the methods employed by the Chinese in the Colony in avoiding liquor and tobacco taxation, and the ingenuity shown by the wily opium and arms smuggler. We give below some interesting statements taken from the report.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The net revenue collected was \$1,740,330.42 including licence fees. Chinese spirit showed a decrease of \$123,400.97; this decrease occurred chiefly in the last half of the year. European liquor showed an increase of \$18,087.64.

Collections on Chinese liquor remained very unsatisfactory, although larger seizures of Chinese spirit and spirits of wine were made. In the course of investigations made into various cases it was proved that a large amount of spirit consumed by Chinese never paid duty, and that the general evasion of duty was far greater than was realised before.

Collections from local Chinese distilleries showed a decrease of 14 per cent. This decrease was partly due to bad trade, partly to water shortage, and partly to the competition of spirits of wine smuggled in from Macao. The competition caused by smuggled spirits of wine caused some distilleries to take a hand in this illicit trade themselves. The distillery regulations continued to work satisfactorily, and all distilleries are now being worked in a systematic manner, and the old, careless, haphazard, and confused methods have been entirely abandoned. All fermenting vessels are arranged in systematic order and are emptied for the purpose of distillation in strict rotation.

Five distilleries were found to be engaged in extensive frauds on the revenue by means of the concealment of about half of their production of rice spirit. They actually reduced by a half the time they claimed necessary for proper fermentation, distilling at half time and not accounting at all for the spirit so produced. Fresh rice was then put to ferment and distilled at the stated time, the spirit so produced being duly accounted for. The records kept in the distillery, of course, failed to show the distillation at half-time and the putting on of fresh rice to ferment. These frauds had probably been going on for a considerable period, if not for years. In all nine distilleries were detected in extensive frauds on the revenue, six were convicted of seven prosecuted, and two paid up arrears of duty.

Distillery Control.

It cannot unfortunately yet be said that distillery control is easy. Very few distilleries yet realise that fraud in the long run must be detected, and that detection is every year becoming more certain as the technical knowledge and practical experience of this department increase as the result of continued experiment and observation. At the present time one Revenue Officer is in charge of Hong Kong Island, one tours the New Territories North in a departmental motor-car every day, one visits the distilleries on the coast in the Southern District in the sea-going launch every day, and another visits those in New Kowloon in addition to other duties. Thus, every distillery is liable to be visited any day. Owing to the time spent in travelling, every distillery cannot be actually visited every day, and it is possible for distilleries to get warning long before the officer actually arrives. The transfer of all distilleries to the adequate control of specially trained officers, and their systematic regulation, has enabled some idea to be formed of the enormous extent of the evasion of liquor duty which prevailed prior to 1929, when distilleries in practice were left to pay such duty as they felt disposed to pay.

The company which has established a molasses tank at Sham Ching supplies a molasses of good and constant quality, and has succeeded in capturing practically all the trade in molasses. But, unfortunately, since they started and many distilleries are now hesitating as to whether it is profitable to carry on business any longer. If the high prices are maintained it is probable that many of the larger distilleries will close.

Imported Chinese spirit decreased by 9 per cent., the decrease being in respect of the cheapest kind of spirit imported from Macao and neighbouring places. Attention is, however, drawn to the increased amounts, seized, 2,623 gallons by revenue officers alone, apart from 721 gallons seized by the police. In many cases the amount seized formed only the smaller portion of the original consignment. The origin of most of this spirit was Macao, whence it was conveyed in small fishing boats.

An Ingenious Method.
One ingenious method of concealment discovered is worthy of mention.

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There was a large increase in the smuggling of spirits of wine: 2,726 gallons were seized by revenue officers, and 16 gallons by the police. The source of all was Macao. The use was continued of glass and stone-ware demijohns sunk in pairs on the bottom of the harbour, especially near Yau Ma Tei breakwater, but no evidence could be obtained as to who was responsible.

The number of Chinese wine and spirit licences issued showed a decrease of 53. Part of the decrease was due to the refusal to renew the licences of shops which had been proved to be trading in smuggled spirit, and part was due to the general state of stagnation of business during the year. An officer was detailed during part of the year specially for the inspection of licensed spirit shops. He found that many shops were selling far more than they admitted or could satisfactorily account for, and that these suspect shops pretended to keep no books whatever. It became quite clear that until shops can be made to keep official books by regulation, as in fact they all do in practice though they refuse to produce them, no control can be exercised over the extensive trade in smuggled spirit. Common Chinese spirit is a kind of commodity both bulky and cheap, and therefore cannot stand heavy transport expenses. Yet it has been found that spirit will be sent from a retail shop in Cheung Sha Wan to a retail shop in Sham Shui Po, from Shauiwan to Sham Shui Po, to shop all over the Colony, where the cost of transport must have been nearly equal to the intrinsic value of the spirit, and the price quoted to the last receiver of a long chain remained the same.

(Continued on Page 2.)

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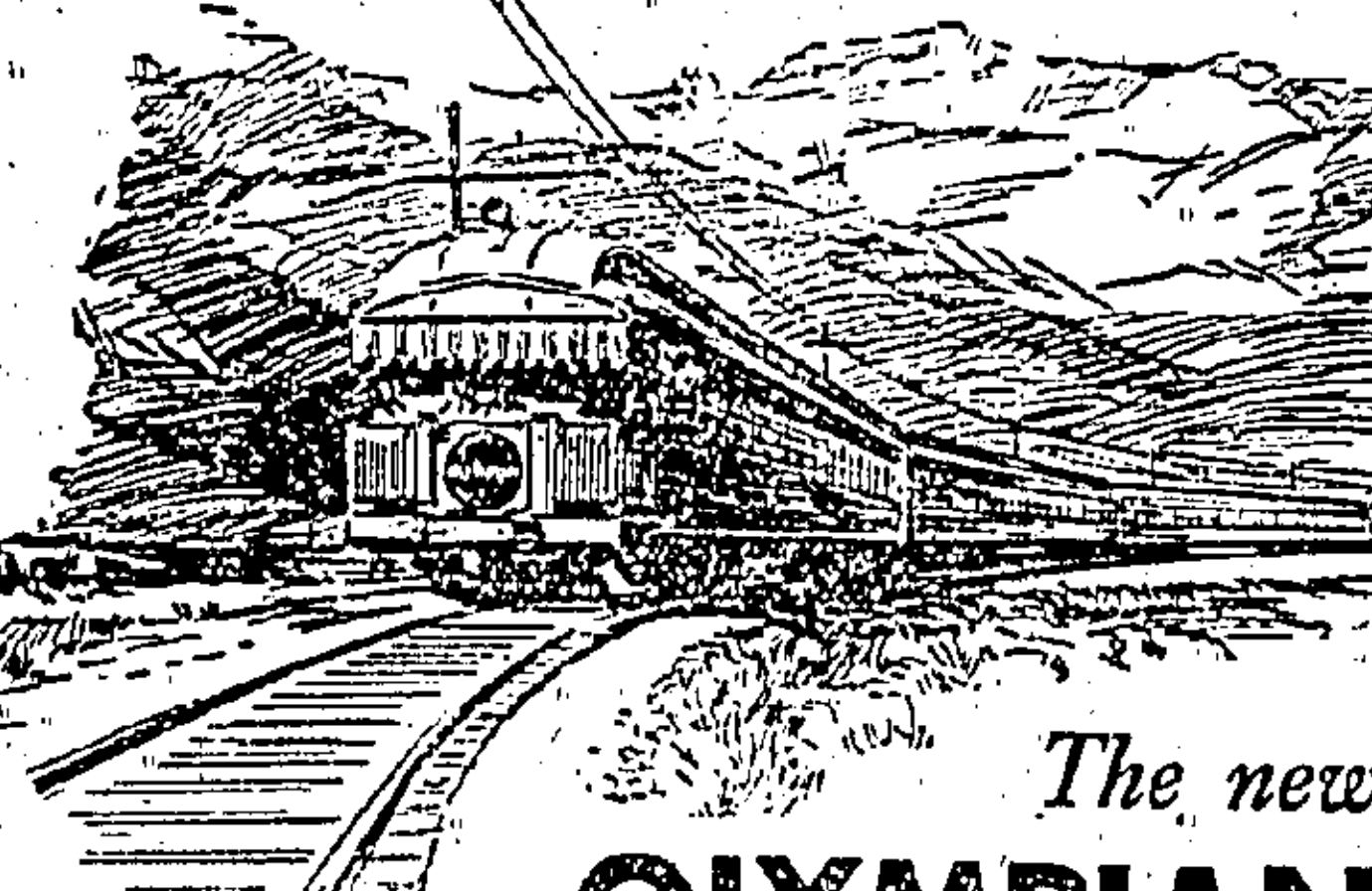
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LIQUOR AND TOBACCO TAX-DODGERS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

The conclusion formed is that much of this aimless transfer which goes on is simply for the purpose of making the spirit lose its identity. The actual smuggling shop gets rid of its contraband at once to another allied shop which "can," of course, plead purchase in good faith if questioned.

Several liquor shops which were closely investigated could not prove how they made enough profit by the sale of spirit which they admitted even to pay for their licence fee. All these shops must have been selling more than twice as much as they stated, and must have had a secret source from which to draw spirit which had never paid duty.

European liquor unexpectedly showed an increase of \$18,000, divided evenly over all categories except beer. Very little bogus Hennessy brandy was met with.

Opium Seizures.

The revenue collected was \$2,703,553.50, a decrease of \$670,362.73 on the figures for 1929.

Wuchow, in spite of the West River being closed to trade twice by the invasions of the Kwongsi forces, supplied the largest quantity of prepared opium.

Macao supplied the second largest quantity; this was in one-tael brass tins bearing an impressed device of a lion and a globe, and is commonly known to Chinese as the Red Lion brand. This brand has been sent to Malaya in large quantities and has been discovered frequently in the Netherlands Indies and elsewhere. Whether this brand is actually prepared in Macao itself is unknown, but it is very frequently found on ships which are known to have come direct from Macao and to have been to no other port. The tin differs from those sold in Macao itself on behalf of the official monopoly. Smokers report that this opium is a blend of Persian and Chinese raw opium with a considerable admixture of some adulterant.

Kwong Chow Wan took third place, and it is probable that very little would have been seen of opium from this source had not the West River route been blocked by hostilities for two periods during the year.

Shanghai appears in the list for the first time; this opium was packed in five-tael tins and was intended for U.S.A. The labels on the tins were copies of those used by Kwong Chow Wan and originally showed Macao manufacture, and were similar to those found on seizures made in U.S.A. This seizure confirms the information received, that Shanghai had become a centre for the preparation and export of opium across the Pacific to U.S.A. The transference of the trade will account for the fact that unusually little was heard during the year of smuggling to U.S.A.

Most of the Chinese raw opium seized was Yunnan bamboo cake opium. It mostly reached the Colony via the West River, but a considerable quantity was brought down by train, some by women carriers, some by the railway staff. While the West River was closed by inter-provincial hostilities, raw opium tended to revert to the old route via Pakhoi and neighbouring ports.

Seizures of Persian opium were more numerous and in most cases it was possible from the circumstances of the seizure to be certain that it had come from Macao direct. Occasionally, bogus Persian opium which had come from Macao was encountered, which was somewhat similar to a sample sent to this Government by the Macao Authorities.

A large seizure of Indian opium was made inside the anchor davit of the Kut Sang on her arrival from Calcutta. A sample submitted to the Authorities in India proved on examination to be excise opium of the type only sold locally in India, and never lawfully exported. The real destination of this lot was Shanghai, where fantastic prices were being quoted for Indian opium, as high as \$1,920 per ball containing about 25 to 28 taels of actual opium. Prices such as this, which is quoted from a letter from a Shanghai opium dealer to a smuggler in Hong Kong, show the general effectiveness of the measures taken to prevent Indian opium entering China, and the difference made by the abolition in 1925 of the unrestricted sale of raw Indian opium at Kwong Chow Wan. For the period previous to 1925 prices in Shanghai ranged from about \$6,000 to \$9,000 per chest of 40 balls.

Supplies of illicit opium of all kinds continued to be both plentiful and cheap, and the Government's most opium decreased as a result. It should be remarked that the seizures of prepared opium destined for other places greatly decreased, while seizures of that destined for local consumption increased somewhat.

Dangerous Drugs.

No seizures of dangerous drugs were made. The use of heroin pills in divans appears to be becoming more common, and some premises were discovered where the clients were offered the choice of illicit opium or heroin pills.

Experiments were conducted in the Laboratory to ascertain whether any heroin passed over in the smoke drawn into the lungs of the smoker, but a negative result was obtained. Arrangements were made with the Medical Department for a special study to be made of any case of addiction due to the use of these pills. So far no such case has been encountered.

Arms for Bias Bay.

Only one important seizure of arms was made, i.e., on the Hai Ching, a vessel which was fated to suffer so severely at the hands of the Bias Bay pirates, for whom probably the automatics seized were intended.

With the withdrawal of the Arms Embargo by the Great Powers it is probable that the smuggling of arms will greatly decrease. This may be expected to affect the smuggling of opium, as the sale of opium provided the funds for the purchase of arms and vice versa. Both in Hong Kong and U.S.A. the proceeds of the sale of illicit opium used to be commonly invested in the purchase of arms, the sale of these in turn at immense profits provided greatly enhanced capital for the purchase of opium. The capital in use was thus earning handsome profits all the time, and it so happened that the demand for arms was strongest just in those places from which opium was exported.



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SHIPPING DISASTER NEAR BOSTON.

SHOWERS OF BURNING OIL.

[UNITED PRESS.]

Boston, Mass., June 11.—Over forty persons are believed to have lost their lives as a result of a collision in fog between the coastwise steamship Fairfax and an unidentified tanker off Scituate.

Survivors who arrived to-day relate a terrible story. They said that immediately after the crash, fire started on the tanker and spread to the Fairfax.

Several passengers of the Fairfax's list of 75 leaped into the sea and were drowned. The tanker soon sank, drowning the 18 Negroes who constituted the crew. While the men could be seen plainly, screaming for aid, officers and crew of the Fairfax were busy battling the flames caused by burning oil which had been fung to the deck of the Fairfax and this prevented immediate lowering of boats.

The steamship Gloucester rescued the passengers of the Fairfax within a short time.

Officials of the Shell Oil Co. said to-day that they believed that the tanker was possibly the Pinthes, which was due at Chelsea at daybreak but has not arrived.

The Fairfax subsequently limped into port under her own power. Early estimates by the passengers set the deaths at around 30, but investigation by company officials indicated that 40 was closer to the correct number. Many of the lives lost could have been spared had it not been for the panic which was caused by the sight of blazing oil all over the Fairfax, with the result that many jumped overboard for fear of burning to death.

Figures compiled late to-day on the death toll of the Fairfax disaster gave the drowned at 48 persons.

It now appears certain that the originally unidentified tanker with which the Fairfax collided is the Shell Oil Co. ship Pinthes.

ADVICE FOR INVESTORS.

READERS are reminded that inquiries relating to the share market are answered on page 12 every Tuesday by "Kufan." Letters should be sent to this office, and must be accompanied by writer's name and address, not for publication. Letters should be addressed to "Kufan," care of the Editor.

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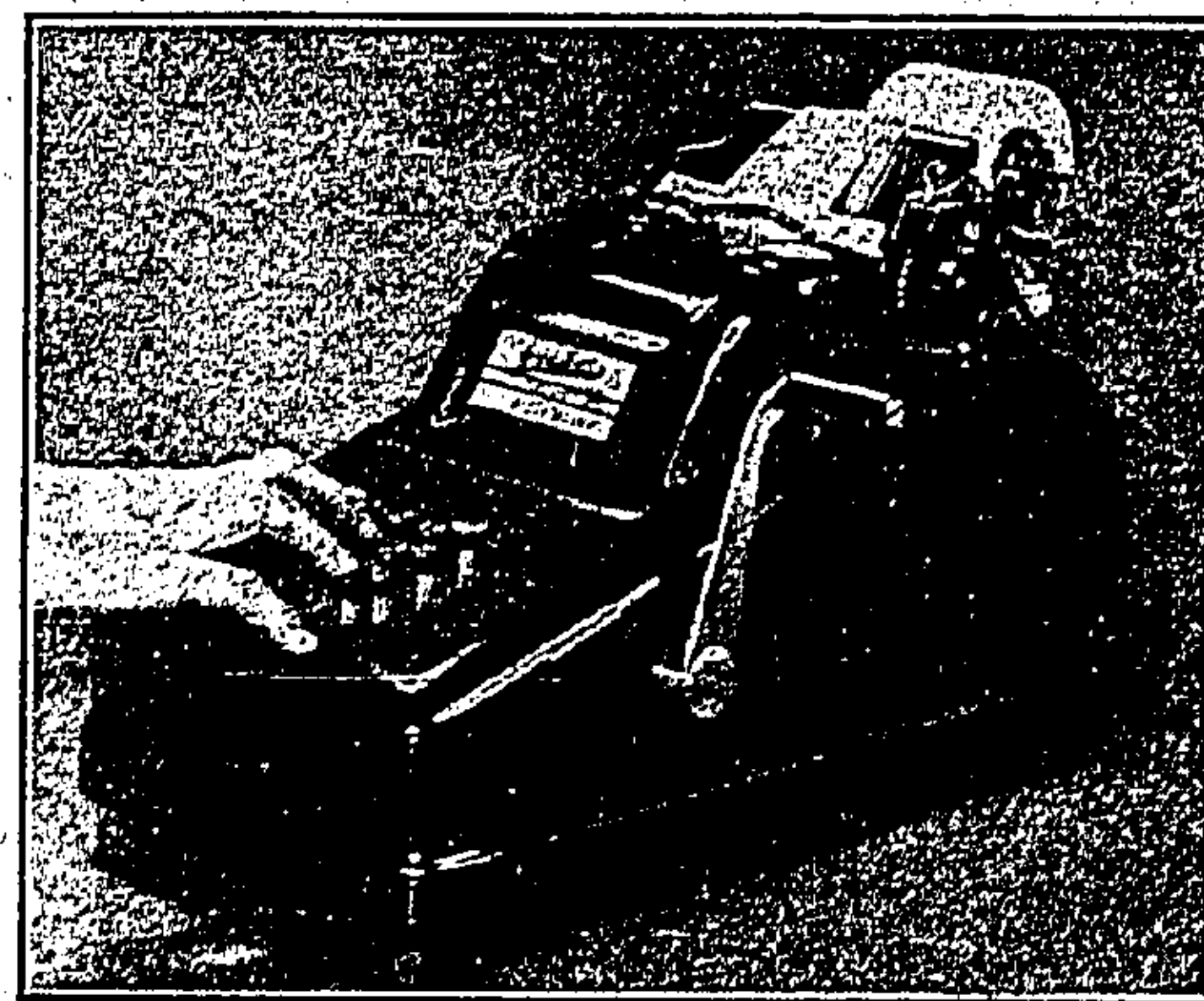
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UNOFFICIAL OPPOSITION WITHOUT AVAIL: TWO AMENDMENTS DEFEATED.

COLONIAL SECRETARY DEALS EXHAUSTIVELY WITH PROPOSED NEW TAXATION.

At yesterday's meeting of the Legislative Council the much discussed recommendations of the Salaries Commission formed the topic of an interesting argument between the Government and the unofficial members. The deliberations lasted almost three hours. The Government, in proposing their adoption, argued that if the recommendations were just, then there should be no delay in giving effect to the recommendations. It was a debt due by the Government to civil servants, and the Colony should find ways and means of meeting this expenditure. The introduction of new taxes—particularly on luxuries—was stated as one of the sources from which the Government proposed to find the money. It was pointed out further that the taxation in the Colony was very low when compared with other parts of the British Empire.

The unofficials proposed two alternative amendments, both of which were defeated. They argued that the present was not an appropriate time to increase the taxation of the Colony, much as civil servants deserved an increase in salary.

FULL REPORT OF OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL SPEECHES.

Those present were:—

His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Peel, K.B.E.
Colonel W. D. S. Brownrigg, D.S.O.
Hon. Mr. W. T. Southern, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).
Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax, C.M.G., C.B.E. (Secretary for Chinese Affairs).
Hon. Mr. C. McL. Messer, O.B.E. (Colonial Treasurer).
Hon. Mr. W. T. Creasy, C.B.E. (Director of Public Works).
Hon. Commander G. F. Hole (Harbour Master).
Hon. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, C.M.G. (Inspector-General of Police).
Hon. Dr. A. R. Wellington (Director of Medical and Sanitary Services).
Hon. Mr. C. G. Alabaster, K.C., O.B.E.
Hon. Sir Shou-son Chow.
Hon. Mr. J. Owen-Hughes.
Hon. Dr. R. H. Kotewall, C.M.G., LL.D.
Hon. Dr. S. W. Tso, O.B.E., LL.D.
Hon. Mr. Paul Lauder.
Hon. Mr. A. F. B. Silva-Netto.
Hon. Mr. J. J. Paterson.
Hon. Mr. C. G. S. Mackie.
and Mr. N. L. Smith (Clerk of Council).

New Members Sworn In.

Prior to commencement of business on the agenda, the following gentlemen were sworn in as members of the Council:—

Colonel W. D. S. Brownrigg, D.S.O.
Hon. Mr. C. G. Alabaster, K.C., O.B.E.
Hon. Mr. C. G. S. Mackie.
Hon. Mr. J. J. Paterson.
Hon. Mr. A. F. B. Silva-Netto.
Hon. Mr. Paul Lauder.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S SPEECH.

Hon. Mr. W. T. Southern, C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary, in proposing that the recommendations of the Salaries Commission be adopted, said:—

Sir,—I rise to move the resolution standing in my name, viz.:

"That this Council approves the recommendations of the Salaries Commission published in Sessional Paper No. 7 of 1929 as modified by the Governor's Despatch No. 37 of January 22, 1930, and approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in his telegram of March 25, 1930, published in Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1930, and further modified by the exclusion of the high cost of living allowance referred to in paragraph 12 of the Commission's report and the rent allowance for dollar salaried officers of less than 10 years' service referred to in paragraph 180 of the report, which allowances shall not be provided without further specific sanction of this Council, and accordingly resolves that a sum of \$1,628,917 be charged upon the revenue and other funds of the Colony in addition to the sums already provided in the estimates for 1930 for the purpose of carrying into effect as from January 1, 1930, the recommendations so modified."

The salaries scheme has been before the public for so long and its provisions have been the subject of so much discussion that I feel I need not detain the Council with any long and detailed description of the scheme.

Altered Circumstances.

The last general revision of salaries was in 1910, when salaries here, as in all British possessions, had to be revised to meet the altered conditions brought about by the war. It is now ten years since that revision, and it is, I think, admitted that circumstances have altered greatly

in the meantime, one of the chief alterations being the drop in the dollar from 5/6d in 1920 to 1/3d in 1930.

The fluctuating dollar is one of the chief difficulties in the calculation of appropriate salaries in Hong Kong, and the large firms have in common with the Government been obliged to adopt temporary expedients from time to time to meet the difficulty. The Government scheme is set out in the salaries report and I need not detail it here. The original scheme worked reasonably well so long as the dollar did not drop below about 5/6d, but when it fell to 2/- the matter became so serious that the Government was faced with repeated requests for a reconsideration of the existing scheme of Government salaries. It was admitted on all sides that the cost of living had risen enormously since 1920, some estimates of the increase being as much as 40 per cent. A temporary remittance privilege had been introduced in 1928 but failed to meet the growing difficulties of the service, while increasing difficulty was being experienced in recruiting suitable officers for vacant posts. Consequently in April 1929 the then Governor addressed the Secretary of State asking for a Commission to consider questions of remuneration and exchange compensation scheme to cover fluctuations of the dollar between 2/6d and 1/9d. I might perhaps remind hon. members that the terms of this despatch were unanimously approved by the unofficial members of this Council at the time. The Secretary of State approved the temporary exchange compensation scheme subject to review by a salaries commission. The compensation scheme was subsequently approved by the Legislative Council, but the dollar refused to halt at 1/9d and a further extension of the scheme down to 1/6d was approved by the Finance Committee for payment up to June 30 of this year. The dollar, as hon. members know, dropped still further, and on the present scheme of payment many members of the Government service are actually receiving less dollars per month than their sterling salary would entitle them to if converted at the current rate of exchange without any exchange compensation privileges whatever. This is a position which equity and justice to its servants feels that action cannot be longer deferred.

The Currency Commission.

In October 1928 the Salaries Commission was appointed consisting of Sir Henry Gollan K.C., O.B.E., Mr. Paul Lauder and The Hon. Sir Shou-son Chow, Kt. I do not think, Sir, that we could have chosen three more suitable commissioners. The Chief Justice was a man of wide experience in many Colonies with a trained judicial mind, and was eminently qualified to arrive at a well-balanced judgment on the whole subject. Mr. Lauder is the head of one of the largest insurance companies operating in the East, with branches scattered all over the world and with a large staff of employees of different nationalities offering problems cognate to its salary questions, and there is no one in Hong Kong with a wider knowledge of Chinese problems than my honourable friend, Sir Shou-son Chow.

The commission reported on August 31, 1929. Their report was published in Sessional Paper No. 7 of 1929 on September 3 of that year, and has been in the hands of hon. members and of the public ever since.

Hon. members are well aware of the elaborate nature of the enquiries held by the Commissioners and from the personal character

and attainments of the commissioners the Government is fully justified in giving the fullest possible weight to their recommendations. Such an extensive survey naturally contained a mass of detail which it was necessary for the Government to examine before submitting the proposals to the Secretary of State. The result of that examination is set out in the annexure to the Governor's despatch of January 22, 1930.

Conflicting Views.

I would, Sir, at this point observe that at the request of the unofficial members of the Executive Council the report was in October 1929 sent to the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce and to the Chinese Chamber of Commerce for their observations. The Chinese Chamber replied on November 27 that it had no observations or representations to make thereon, but in March last it made a further report representing the inadequacy of the increase in remuneration proposed for the dollar paid officers. The Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce did not send in its considered reply till the 14th of February last and as the late Governor naturally wished to communicate his views to the Secretary of State before he left the Colony it was impossible to wait for the views of the Chamber of Commerce. These views, however, were fully considered after their receipt, and were sent to the Secretary of State, and the Government undertook to give time for their consideration in the Colonial Office before proceeding with the scheme. The Chamber's views were duly considered by the Secretary of State who replied on May 25 last.

I have given careful consideration to the criticisms of the Chamber of Commerce Committee, but while I appreciate the force of their argument, I regret that I cannot consider them of sufficient weight to require reversal of instructions conveyed in my telegram of March 25.

Subject to the minor amendments already referred to the Government accepts the report as a fair and reasonable solution of a very difficult problem, and the report has received the approval of the Secretary of State who has authorized the Government to place it before the Legislative Council and to ask for the provision of the funds necessary to carry it into effect.

The Falling Dollar.

But for the fall in the dollar I doubt whether the report would have met with the hostile reception which was accorded to it. With the dollar at 2/- many officers would have received actually a few dollars less per month than they were receiving before; but as the dollar fell the prospect of an increase in taxation became less attractive to the general public and increased the opposition to what is in reality a very fair scheme and indeed a tardy act of justice to a body of hard-working officers who are entitled to just remuneration for their labours. The opposition to the scheme may, I think, be classified under two heads. The first main criticism is that the salaries recommended are, generally speaking, too high.

Warren Fisher Report.

Now, Sir, on the general question of the remuneration of sterling paid officers I would venture to quote to the Council certain passages from that very able report published only in April last on the system of appointment to the Colonial services. The report is generally known as the "Warren Fisher Report" from the name of the chairman of the committee. The committee says:—"Modern conditions demand also a generally higher standard of personal, educational and professional quali-

tifications, and in addition, the employment of men with scientific and special attainments of a kind not previously to be found in Colonial service."

On page 15 the committee, speaking of the remuneration of qualified technical officers, says with reference to engineers in particular:—"Apart, however, from these special observations, we do not hesitate to give it as our opinion that any real improvement in the quantity and quality of the fully trained engineering personnel required for the Colonial services must depend on an improvement in the general rate of emoluments offered. Our evidence shows clearly that in view of the cost and duration of an engineer's training the inducements offered by the Colonial services are not adequate."

Again on page 33 the Committee says:—"Recruitment of the necessary trained staff cannot in our opinion be regarded as sufficient either in quantity or quality. Though this may to some extent be improved by extended missionary work on the part of the recruiting authorities, it is to be borne in mind that the remuneration and opportunities offered in other public appointments and in business are an increasingly important competitive factor and one which must sooner or later call for a generally higher standard of remuneration in many of the Colonial Services."

That report is a public document which honourable members could obtain at any time. Some of our critics have admitted that some of the salaries ought to be even higher, and I suggest for the consideration of hon. members that this shows how difficult it is with inadequate knowledge, to assess the exact salary for any individual post—for in a scheme of this kind the personal qualifications of the holder at the moment must be disregarded.

Comparison With Other Colonies.

As regards sterling salaries the commission had the advantage of comparison with other Colonies; it had knowledge of our difficulties in filling vacant posts, I refer specially to the cadet service, to the medical and education departments, and to some of the lower grade sterling posts, and it had considerable information as to what was paid in commercial firms, and the Chinese Chamber of Commerce for their observations. The Chinese Chamber replied on November 27 that it had no observations or representations to make thereon, but in March last it made a further report representing the inadequacy of the increase in remuneration proposed for the dollar paid officers. The Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce did not send in its considered reply till the 14th of February last and as the late Governor naturally wished to communicate his views to the Secretary of State before he left the Colony it was impossible to wait for the views of the Chamber of Commerce. These views, however, were fully considered after their receipt, and were sent to the Secretary of State, and the Government undertook to give time for their consideration in the Colonial Office before proceeding with the scheme. The Chamber's views were duly considered by the Secretary of State who replied on May 25 last.

Criticism of Dollar Salaries.

As regards the dollar salaries there have been two criticisms—one from the General Chamber of Commerce that they are too high, and one from the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, which, as I remarked above, after first stating that it had no observations to offer, subsequently criticised the dollar salaries as being too low. The criticisms of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce seem to me to suffer in some respects from a failure to grasp the fact that the wages of daily paid labour are not dealt with in the report. The wages of daily paid labour are governed by certain economic laws, and there is not sufficient reason to suppose that the recommendations of the Salaries Commission will have any appreciable effect on them.

But in so far as the monthly paid staff is concerned the commissioners went very carefully into the question of what was an economic wage for the lowest paid Chinese labourer, and I know from personal conversations with Sir Henry Gollan that this particular question is one which caused him the greatest anxiety. He was satisfied that the salaries now being paid are in many cases not sufficient to provide a decent living wage, and in justice to its minor employees the Government is bound to give full weight to the conclusions of the commissioners in this matter. Starting from the bottom the commissioners have worked upwards in an ascending scale and have produced a salary scheme for the Colonial staff which the Government considers fair and reasonable. It has been urged that this scale somewhat higher than that in force in mercantile offices, but I have reason to believe that some mercantile offices pay equally well and offer prizes

with which the Government service cannot compete. Taking everything into consideration the Government is satisfied that it ought to pay to its subordinate staff the salaries recommended.

Chamber of Commerce Criticism.

Speaking generally, the Chamber of Commerce criticism of the scheme seems to me to be based not on the theory that the recommendations of the commission would result in the payment of salaries which are too high having regard to the nature of the work done and to the increased cost of living in recent years, but rather on the effect which it is alleged will be produced on business firms in the Colony. In the eyes of the Chamber of Commerce the scheme is inexpedient from the point of view of the local employer and that is about as far as the criticism goes.

The other main argument against the scheme is that the Colony cannot afford it, or any rate that it cannot afford it at the present time. Now, Sir, if the scheme is a fair one, and the Government believes it to be fair, it could only be said that the Colony could not afford it if the Colony was already heavily taxed to meet its necessary services. Granted that the scheme is fair, the payment of these salaries becomes a debt of honour which the Colony is bound to meet unless in so doing it should place a crushing burden on the taxpayers. But, Sir, what are the facts? It cannot be denied that the Colony is lightly taxed. The incidence of taxation is admittedly very difficult to calculate, but I think how they will I defy my honourable friends to prove that Hong Kong is heavily taxed at the present time.

Taxation: a Comparison.

If you take direct taxation Hong Kong pays yearly about \$7.1 a head. Australia pays £12. 19s. 6d., Canada £8. 19s. 4d. and the United Kingdom £15. 2s. 8d. without municipal taxes. If you take direct and indirect taxation together and take Hong Kong's population at only 500,000 Hong Kong pays yearly \$20.7 a head. If you take total revenue, which includes receipts from land sales, widows and orphan's pension contributions and all other items many of which are not derived from taxation at all, the proportionate revenue per head works out as follows:—Hong Kong pays \$23.4, the Straits Settlements pays \$63, the Federated Malay States pays \$72, and Ceylon pays \$15.5 rупees. I firmly believe, Sir, that Hong Kong is one of the most lightly taxed civilized countries in the world, and if it expects an efficient modern Government it should be prepared to pay for it.

Now, Sir, if my view of Hong Kong taxation is correct my unofficial friends are stopped from saying that the Colony cannot afford to meet the bill for the salaries scheme for there is a large reserve of taxable material at present untouched. The Government is satisfied that the Colony can well afford to meet the additional cost of the scheme, even though it should involve some slight additional taxation.

I turn now to the argument that the Colony cannot afford the scheme at the present time. Nothing would have pleased me better, Sir, than to introduce the scheme when the Colony was in the full flow of prosperity, when trade was booming and when everyone was happy. Admittedly times are difficult and it has yet to be seen whether, as one school of last thought has predicted, the fall of the dollar will bring renewed prosperity to the Colony. For the moment the fall of the dollar has brought hardship to many individuals, who see their sterling costs going up and the value of their dollar savings dwindling. But if the scheme was necessary when the dollar was at 2/- and the currency crisis had not developed, it is no less necessary now, for on the present system of exchange for sterling salaries some officers are receiving less than the actual dollar equivalent of their sterling salaries, while dollar-salaried officers, whose basic salaries were regarded as too low by the commission, are now receiving more than before.

With the dollar at 1/3d and 1/4d. Even if the whole salary scheme were not accepted by this Council, some steps would be necessary to relieve the situation, and I notice on the agenda paper, a motion by my honourable friend, Dr. Kotewall, who is evidently prepared to offer a compromise with a view to reducing the cost to the Colony. But, Sir, Dr. Kotewall's scheme is in the opinion of the Government fair neither to the sterling-salaried nor to the dollar-salaried officers. The former it leaves in the position I have described above of receiving less than the dollar equivalent of their salaries; to the latter it offers only half of what the officers thought they deserved as long ago as last August. Now, Sir, the Government has a high opinion of the value of its subordinate staff and it is not prepared to deny to them at the time when their needs are greatest one half of the increase to which the commissioners considered them to be entitled last year.

H.C.L. Allowance.

But, Sir, the Government is not unmindful of the cost of the whole scheme and of the new factors introduced by the drop in the dollar, and it has after mature consideration come to the conclusion that it can reduce the cost of the scheme

without undue hardship to the service by eliminating for the present the two charges referred to in my motion, viz., the high cost of living allowance of 13 per cent. and 73 per cent. for sterling salaried officers, and the rent allowance for dollar salaried officers of less than 10 years' service. As regards the former the salaries scheme took as its basis for calculation a dollar at 2/-, and in order to give an officer roughly the same salary in dollars as he was then receiving, it increased his substantive salary by 15 per cent. and added a discretionary high cost of living allowance of not more than 13 per cent. for married or 73 per cent. for unmarried officers. It appears to the Government that as the cost of living in Hong Kong rises proportionately more slowly than the dollar drops, there comes a point at which the high cost of living allowance may scarcely be justified, and the actual dollar equivalent of the sterling salary becomes a reasonable emolument without the addition of any high cost of living allowance. But this cannot be regarded as a permanent situation. The commissioners realized that with an unstable exchange there must be a variable factor in the system adopted for the conversion of sterling salaries into dollars, and while fixing new substantive salaries it left a variable factor in the high cost of living allowance. The point at which this allowance should again become payable, and the sliding scale which ought to be adopted when it does become payable, are matters which the Government is leaving for further consideration. Suffice it to say that for the present the Government is satisfied that it need not be paid and the resultant saving to the exchequer is estimated at \$23,500. The allowance will not be introduced without further reference to this Council.

At the same time the Government is prepared to ask for some sacrifice from the dollar-salaried officers. Hitherto dollar-salaried officers of less than ten years' service have not been entitled to rent allowance. The commissioners recommended the grant of this concession regardless of length of service. The Government considers that the old rule might for the present remain unchanged without undue hardship and the saving obtained by this modification of the scheme is estimated at \$248,281. The Government is satisfied that with these modifications the scheme is not an undue burden on the Colony even under present conditions, and sees no justification for a further postponement of the scheme.

Cost of the Scheme.

I come now, Sir, to the cost of the scheme, and this of course varies with the rate of the dollar. On the advice of my honourable friend the Colonial Treasurer, we have taken 1/6d. as the average rate for the whole year 1930 and we can only hope that we shall not be proved over-optimistic. No-one can guarantee the future course of the dollar and even since our calculations were made the dollar has dropped still further. Should it remain below 1/6d. there will necessarily be an increase in the cost of the scheme as calculated in dollars but the increase will be fully justified. Taking an average rate of 1/6d. over the whole year, and taking the scheme as modified by the two alterations already referred to and by the recommendations embodied in Sir Cecil Clementi's despatch of January last, and the enclosure, the additional cost over and above the amount voted in the estimates for 1930 is estimated after careful revision of the details as \$1,628,917.

The additional cost of the full scheme with the dollar at 1/6d. is estimated at \$2,542,998. Deducting from this the sums of \$663,800 and \$248,000 referred to above we arrive at the net increase of \$1,628,917. This amount includes the sum of \$377,400 which is the estimated cost of continuing the exchange compensation scheme down to 1/6d. It will be remembered that in voting this sum the Finance Committee stipulated that the increased compensation should not be paid beyond June 30, without further reference to the committee and it may therefore be held to have voted only \$188,700. It has been thought better to include the sum already voted in the total vote for the new scheme, but honourable members will of course understand that there will be a saving on the double vote of the amount already voted for the increased exchange compensation allowance.

Meeting the Cost.

To meet this additional recurrent charge and to meet the increased cost of sterling commitments owing to the drop of the dollar, the Government considers it necessary to increase the revenue of the Colony. The financial position is very fully set out in Sir Cecil Clementi's despatch published in Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1930, and I need not detain the Council by repeating the details which can be more conveniently studied in the sessional paper. The Government has given much earnest consideration to the sources from which this additional revenue should be obtained, and has taken due notice of the reception accorded to the proposals set out in Sir Cecil Clementi's despatch. I am authorized to say that it has been decided to leave in abeyance the proposal to raise the assessment tax, though I must warn honourable members

that it may still be necessary to impose some increase later on in order to balance the Budget for 1931 unless the retrenchment committee, which my honourable friend, Mr. Owen Hughes, will ask for later in the day and which the Government will readily grant, is able to effect such reforms that further taxation can be avoided. The Government, as honourable members are already aware, has increased the tax on tobacco and hopes to derive therefrom \$700,000 in a full year and \$300,000 during the rest of 1930. The postal rates, at present far below those current elsewhere will be raised from July 1 whereby the Government hopes to obtain \$100,000 during 1930 and \$223,000 in a full year.

The first reading of an Ordinance to introduce a petrol tax will be taken this afternoon from which the Government hopes to derive a net revenue of \$275,000 in a full year and \$135,000 during the rest of 1930.

An Ordinance to introduce an Amusement Tax will be brought forward later in the year from which the Government hopes to derive \$200,000 per annum.

These taxes should in a full year produce \$1,500,000 from which military contribution of 20 per cent. or \$300,000 falls to be deducted leaving a net additional revenue of \$1,200,000. Admittedly this increase of revenue will not be fully available to meet additional expenditure for the current year, but our revenue has been coming in well during the first half of the year and we are already more than \$750,000 above our estimates for the proportionate period. Expenditure is being carefully watched and if all goes well we may yet find ourselves able to keep within our revenue—and should this prove impossible we are in a strong position as regards our liquid reserves and should be able without difficulty to meet any anticipated deficit on the year's working.

A Note of Warning.

If it is, however, important that in a normal year recurrent expenditure should be met from recurrent revenue, and it is for this reason that I have ventured to sound a note of warning as to the possible necessity for raising further revenue by means of the assessment rates next year.

I regret, Sir, that my remarks should have been extended to this inordinate length, but the subject is one of vital importance to the good government of this Colony and one which has aroused great public interest. This must be my excuse for delaying the Council so long.

I now move that:—

"That this Council approves the recommendations of the Salaries Commission published in Sessional Paper No. 7 of 1929 as modified by the Governor's Despatch No. 37 of January 22, 1930, and approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in his telegram of March 25, 1930, published in Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1930, and further modified by the exclusion of the High Cost of Living allowance referred to in paragraph 12 of the Commission's report and the rent allowance for dollar salaried officers of less than ten years' service referred to in paragraph 180 of the report which allowances shall not be provided without further specific sanction of this Council, and accordingly resolves that a sum of \$1,628,917 be charged upon the Revenue and other funds of the Colony in addition to the sums already provided in the Estimates for 1930 for the purpose of carrying into effect as from the 1st of January, 1930, the recommendations so modified."

I and I trust that hon. members will feel that the motion is one to which they can give their support. The Government will regard it as a matter of sincere regret should it not receive the unanimous support of the Council in what it regards as an essential act of justice to its employees. (Applause.)

(Continued on Page 4.)

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GOVERNOR'S DEFENCE OF SALARY COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3.)

MR. OWEN HUGHES' SPEECH.

The Hon. Mr. J. Owen Hughes said:—Sir, Being the senior European unofficial member present today, it falls to me to present to Your Excellency and this Council the considered views of ourselves, and also of the members of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, and large employers of labour in this Colony, on the Salaries Commission Report.

Will you kindly allow me, Sir, first of all to refer to a letter sent to the Hon. Colonial Secretary by the Hon. Mr. Shenton on May 14 expressing the unanimous request of unofficial members that he should propose two motions in connection with the question now before us. Mr. Shenton wrote again on the 2nd of this month to ask Your Excellency to accept that letter as a formal notice of motion, and that unofficial members desired that they be treated as substantive motions, at the same time, informing the Government that owing to his impending departure for home these motions would be proposed by me.

As, however, the Government have adopted the present course of action, it necessitates the first of the two motions referred to being put as an amendment, and I trust Your Excellency will accept it in this form:—That in view of the far-reaching effect of the Commission's Report on employment generally, and the community as a whole, and the large expenditure of money involved, His Excellency the President of this Council be invited to appoint a Committee consisting of Government nominees, representatives of employers and employees and others having a broad knowledge of the conditions of employment in the Colony, to investigate the Report of the Commissioners and make a report thereon for further consideration.

As Your Excellency is doubtless aware, the Committee of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, very shortly after the report of the Salaries Commission was received, appointed a special sub-committee under the chairmanship of the Hon. Mr. Shenton to consider the report and obtain the views of the principal employers of this Colony, the others forming this sub-committee being Mr. M. T. Johnson, then in charge of Messrs. Mackintosh, Mackenzie & Co., and Mr. A. Ritchie, of Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews, with Mr. M. F. Key as secretary.

Report Recast.

It was realised that it would be quite impossible merely to put the report as it stood before the employers, so they, as far as they were able, took the report to pieces, and recast it into schedules, showing in separate columns the present position, the recommendations of the Commissioners and the percentages of increase.

The report, the schedules in question and a covering letter were then placed before the following concerns, for the purpose of obtaining their views:—

(1) Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.; (2) the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd.; (3) the Hong Kong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.; (4) the Hong Kong Tramway Co., Ltd.; (5) the Asiatic Petroleum Co., Ltd.; (6) the Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.; (7) the P. & O. Steamship Co., Ltd.; (8) the E. & A. Lines; (9) the Hong Kong Electric Co., Ltd.; (10) Messrs. Butterfield & Swire; (11) the Taikoo Dockyard and (12) the Taikoo Sugar Refinery Co., Ltd.

It might here be stated that the sub-committee were considerably surprised to find that none of the executives of the above concerns had been consulted by the Commissioners.

Written statements were received from all, and were found to be unanimous in rejecting the Commissioners' Report, the general consensus of opinion being that the present terms of Government employment were more advantageous than similar employment outside. It must not be assumed by this general statement that there are not considered to be cases where revision is necessary—there are, and probably many, but they must be dealt with as individual cases.

The views expressed were collated in a report which was passed to the Committee of the Chamber, who, after consideration, adopted it as the considered view of the Chamber, and the same was in January last sent to the Government.

It should also be stated that the Commission's Report had previously been submitted to a board appointed to consider labour conditions, who, by a majority, arrived at the same conclusion as the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce.

That, Sir, is a brief history of the progress of the Commissioners' Report, through the hands of the sub-committee, the large employers of labour, and members of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce. Second only to the labour undertaken by members of the Salaries Commission themselves, in the taking of evidence, in the consideration, and the final presentation of the report itself, is the vast amount

of work undertaken by Mr. Shenton and those associated with him in preparing and presenting the report, with the various schedules I have referred to, before the Committee of the Chamber and employers, but it earned for them the gratitude of all, and especially of those who will be adversely affected should the recommendations of the Commission be adopted. Many meetings have been held by unofficial members, including one meeting with representatives of the Government, members of the Salaries Commission, and with the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, culminating in a speech by the Hon. Mr. Shenton which, but for his departure on a well-earned holiday, would be delivered by him to Your Excellency and this Council today.

With the knowledge and consent of all the unofficial members, a copy of the speech and schedules was sent to the Hon. Colonial Secretary, and being thus submitted, it would, in my opinion, be unfair that such an important document, the result of many weeks' labour and careful thought, should be left unrecorded. I, therefore, crave Your Excellency's permission and the indulgence of hon. members to quote freely from that speech, particularly as I am in full agreement with it. I will afterwards submit my own views, leaving the recorder of this amendment, the Hon. Mr. Mackie, and other unofficial colleagues to make their own observations in support.

An Arduous Task.
I have before me a difficult and arduous task—one which I think no one will approach without a feeling of diffidence having regard to the magnitude of the subject, and the interests involved. One has only to scan the pages of the Salaries Report to realise that it covers almost every class of employment in the Colony. To be able to express an authoritative opinion on the emolument, which should be received by every form of service in Hong Kong, is a knowledge which I personally do not possess, and I very much doubt whether there is any one man qualified. Nevertheless I think it is possible to get a body of men together consisting of Government representatives, employers and employees, who could at least do justice to those whose salaries are under consideration, and at the same time effectively guard the other interests and considerations which require protection.

I have no hesitation in saying that to arrive at an equitable and fair decision, not only must the views of the Government service be heard, but the representations of any other interests in the Colony, likely to be affected, and as regards pensions, the general conditions existing, and likely to exist, in those countries where the recipient concerned is likely to retire to.

We must not be blind to the fact that any increase has to be paid for, that any advantages given must reflect on outside employment, and that the general conditions of trade—past, present and future—call for the most careful investigation.

Before proceeding further, I should like to pay a tribute to the great work of the Commissioners—who have given so much of their time to the study of this difficult matter—they have devoted many weeks to this important subject. The public, as a whole, and the Government in particular, must be (and without doubt are) deeply indebted to the members of the Commission for their great service, and for the range of their deliberations, which has given us a comprehensive frame upon which to work, and will assist us very materially in understanding the important problems we are called upon to solve.

In reviewing this matter, we owe a duty to the Colony as a whole, and we should be failing in that duty if we attempted to represent any individual interest, or in any way allowed one section of the community to influence us more than another. Whilst we wish to do justice to the Government service, we must be careful that our recommendations do not cause undue injury to the public, or cast too great a strain on the revenues of this Colony.

The Commissioners were appointed on October 13, 1928, and the report in question was delivered some time in the autumn of last year. I cannot give the exact date, as the report is not dated.

The terms of reference were four only:—(1) The adequacy of the present Government salary scales; (2) the method of conversion of such salaries, when in the Colony, and on leave; (3) the principles of acting pay, charge allowances, and overtime; (4) housing, and rent allowances.

Question of Pensions.
I want you to note here, that although the terms of reference specifically refer to leave pay, no mention is made of pensions, and I venture to suggest that pensions are a matter which require separate consideration and are not necessarily bound up with the amount of salary granted when on active service, but are more concerned with the general circumstances and conditions in the country to which the recipient is likely ultimately to retire.

(Continued on Page 6.)

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Bookings at Anderson Music Store and at the
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FINANCE COMMITTEE.

VOTES TOTTALLING \$6,336
APPROVED.

Following the Legislative Council meeting yesterday, the Finance Committee approved of various items of expenditure totalling \$6,336. There were no questions except in regard to an item of \$1,800 in connection with personal emoluments to two engineer apprentices from July to December this year. It was explained that with a view to improving the opportunities for the practical training of graduates in engineering, Government had approved a scheme whereby two students from the Hong Kong University could be given appointments in the P.W.D. as engineering apprentices from July 1 at a salary not exceeding \$180 per month.

In answer to a question by Hon. Mr. Silva-Netto, the Colonial Secretary said that the candidates were nominated by the University.

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Come to the
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(Next to A.P.O. BUILDING)

To-day's Tiffin—\$1.00

- 1.—Hors d'Oeuvres
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- 5.—Grilled Pork Chop and Peas
- 6.—Roast Duck and Apple Sauce
- 7.—Cold Roast Mutton
- 8.—Strawberry Jelly
- 9.—Cheese
- 10.—Dessert
- 11.—Tea or Coffee

Cold TIFFIN 75 cts

Food Connoisseurs
Cold Roast Beef or Mutton
Cold Roast Pork Ham
Cold Roast Chicken
Potato Salad and Mayonnaise
Ice Cream
Fruits
Iced Tea

STRUGGLE WITH A ROBBER.

MR. SPRADBERRY COM-
MENDED BY MAGISTRATE.

EARLY MORNING TUSSELE
WITH A BURGLAR.

When giving evidence before Mr. T. S. Whyte-Smith yesterday, of a fight with a robber in the early hours of Tuesday morning, Mr. E. J. J. Spradberry was warmly congratulated by the Magistrate, who said:—"Let me congratulate you on the fight you put up. The defendant is obviously bigger than you are. It was very brave of you to have held on to the man."

Inspector Fallon then said that he thought Mr. Spradberry was very brave, to which his Worship replied, "Yes, indeed."

In the witness-box, Mr. Spradberry said that it was shortly after two o'clock on Tuesday, when the incident occurred. He and Mrs. Spradberry had just seen a lady friend off and they were about to retire when he heard a noise. Mrs. Spradberry was awake and saw a man in the bedroom, and when he got up, he (witness) saw the thief crouching by the side of the bed. He went for the man, and they became engaged in a furious struggle in the hall, where blows were given and taken freely. He shouted to his wife to turn on all the lights in the house, and Mrs. Spradberry, in the meantime, had to mind the baby.

Chase Down the Stairs.

Continuing witness said that he grappled with the thief, who went out of the open front door in an endeavour to make his getaway, but he (Mr. Spradberry) jumped on his man, and, clothed only in pyjamas, he continued the terrible struggle all the way down the stairs into Nathan Road. Here the man clutched him by the throat; he shouted for help, and two gentlemen, one from the ground floor and the other from the first floor, came to his assistance, and together they got this powerful man under control.

In answer to blasts from police whistles, three Indian policemen appeared on the scene and they took the man into custody. Mr. Spradberry said that he struggled with the man for about a quarter of an hour before any help, and, on his doctor's orders, he did not go back to work for a week, as the skin on both of his feet was torn and there was a graze on his left arm.

Mr. Spradberry concluded his evidence by saying, with a smile, that he "sat down on the pavement because he was fagged out."

The Magistrate then registered a conviction, when Inspector Fallon told the Court that there was nothing known against the man. He had told them that he was unemployed and slept in the streets, but he appeared too well dressed for a street sleeper.

Sentence of one year's hard labour was then passed.

THE SILVER SCREEN.

BIG IDEAS.

The film now being shown at the Queen's Theatre, "Big Time," is an amusing story of a man whose ability is out of all proportion to his ideas. It is a lively picture in every sense of the word, and though it deals with such familiar places as behind the footlights and movie studios there are some unfamiliar incidents which make "Big Time" an interesting picture. There is some good singing and dancing as well as excellent acting. The picture is being shown to-day and Saturday.

"Song of Kentucky."

There are few, if any, more interesting men in Hollywood than Frank Merlyn. He has been hobo, author, actor, Press agent, door-tender, scene-shifter, advance agent, property-man, usher, stage-carpenter, scene-painter, manager, director and producer. He boasts that he had filled every possible job connected with a theatre except to sell tickets, and cannot understand how he escaped that occupation.

Merlyn is the author of several plays, and never wrote one he did not sell. Naturally he is familiar with every angle of production, and this is probably the reason he was selected to stage direct "A Song of Kentucky," Fox Movietone comedy drama showing at the Queen's Theatre from Sunday co-featuring Joe Wagstaff and Lois Moran.

POLICE PROBATIONER'S CLAIM.

SEQUEL TO CYCLE AND CAR COLLISION.

Police Court proceedings against Chan Kai Ling, a student of St. Stephen's College, who is summoned for negligent driving of a motor car, were resumed before Mr. R. E. Lindsell yesterday, when the defendant said there was a misunderstanding when this driver attended court the previous time and pleaded guilty.

Mr. W. P. Thompson, a police probationer, was the complainant, and he had Mr. A. R. S. Major, another probationer, riding pillion on the motor cycle, which it was contended had to run into a wall in order to avoid the defendant's car. Compensation of \$50 was claimed by the complainant for damage to his machine.

Mr. Major stated in evidence that the machine was proceeding at 20 miles an hour. The car was first seen to be stationary between 80 and 100 yards ahead, but when the cycle was within 20 yards of the car, the latter pulled out across the road without any warning. Witness said that Mr. Thompson applied his brakes and sounded his horn, and swerved into the wall in his endeavour to avoid hitting the car.

Answering Mr. Hin Shing Lo, who appeared for the defence, witness denied that the cycle was travelling at a speed of between 40 and 50 miles an hour.

Mr. Lo pointed out that it was curious the cycle could not have been pulled up under 30 yards if it were travelling at only 20 miles an hour. Witness maintained that the speed was no more than that, and said that Mr. Thompson purposely ran into the wall to avoid damaging the car.

After hearing defendant's evidence, the summons was adjourned until Monday.

ALL SINGING—DANCING

WILLIAM FOX presents
BIG TIME
ALL TALKING
Fox Movietone Drama of a man whose ability is out of all proportion to his ideas and his Hollywood success

A small time dancer, with big time ideas is taken in by his own big headed vanity.

with **LEE TRACY**
Mac Clarke
Josephine Dunn
Eugene Pallett
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Story by William Smith
Dialog by William K. Wells and Sidney Gayfield
Sung by A. M. Van Dusen
Directed by KENNETH HAWKS

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At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.20.

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"A Woman of Affairs"
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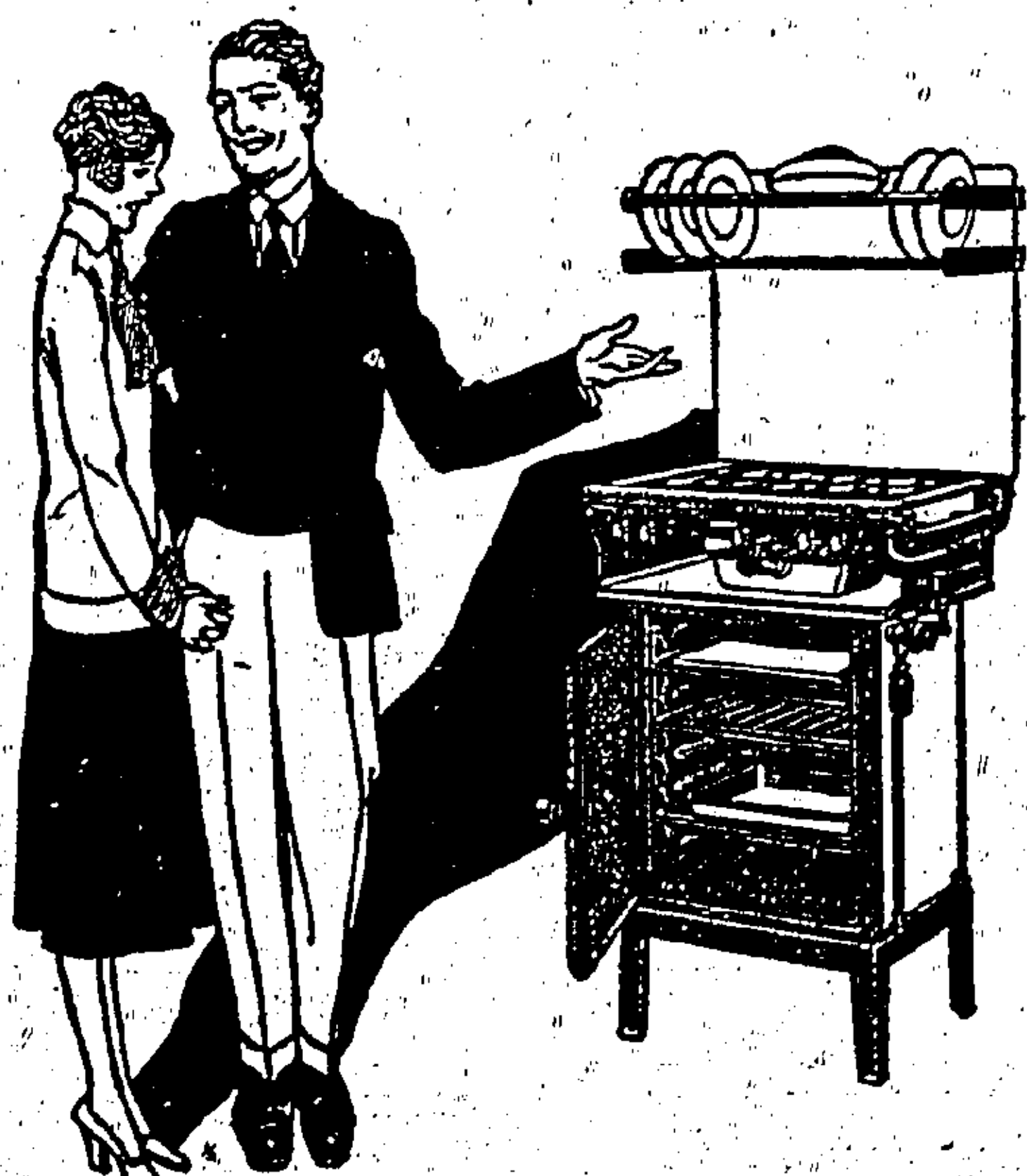
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At 5.30 & 9.20

DRAMA! COMEDY! PATHOS!
ROD LA ROCQUE
IN
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JOBYNA RALSTON, LOUISE DRESSER

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At 5.15 & 9.20 Only.

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At 2.30, 5.30, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.

"SEE YOU in JAIL"

with

Jack Mulhail,
Alice Day, Mack Swain.

Into jail without a cent—out of it with a million dollars and a sweetheart. He found a gold mine on a rock pile. More laughs than a prison has bars! More thrills than a jailor has keys!

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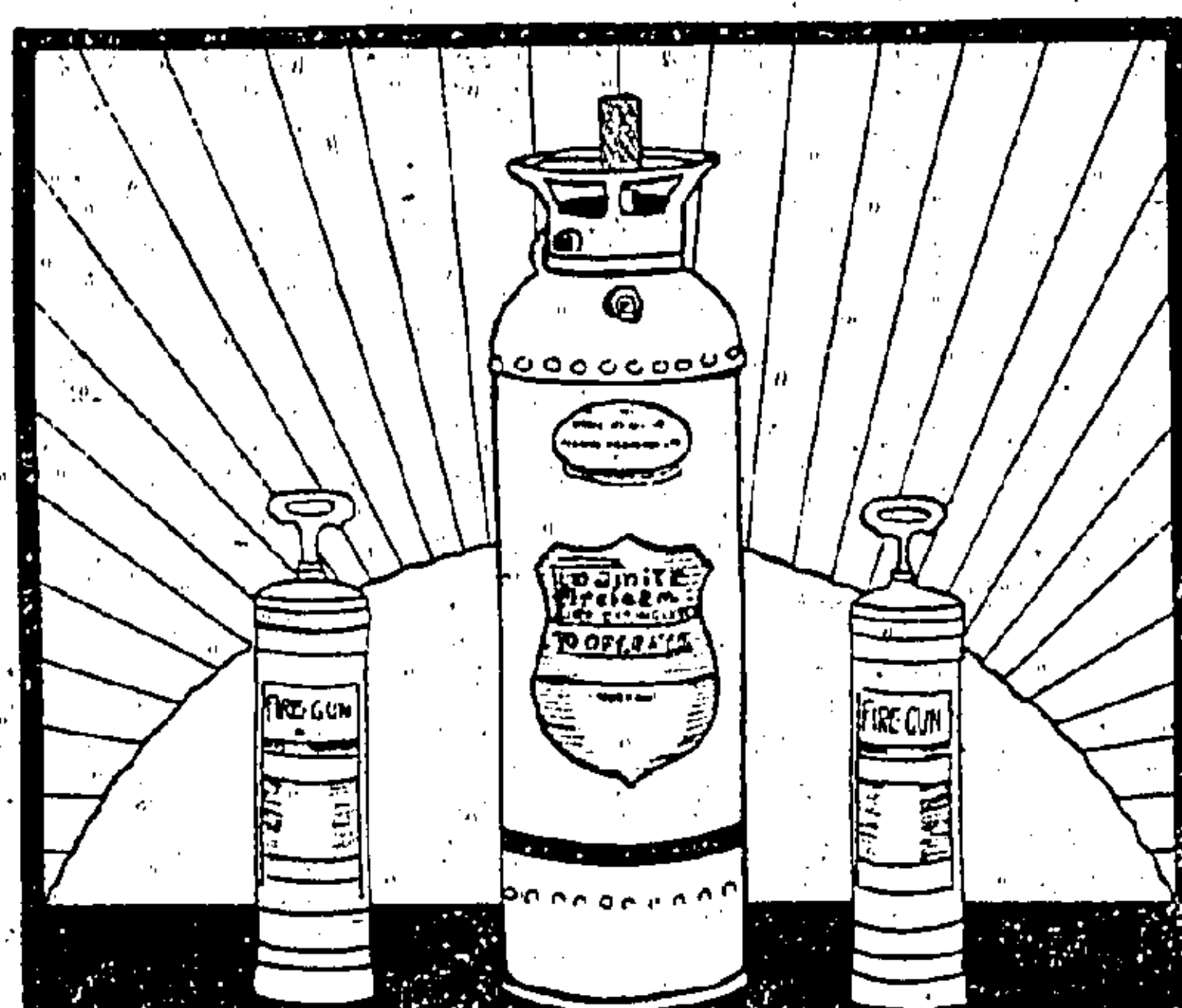
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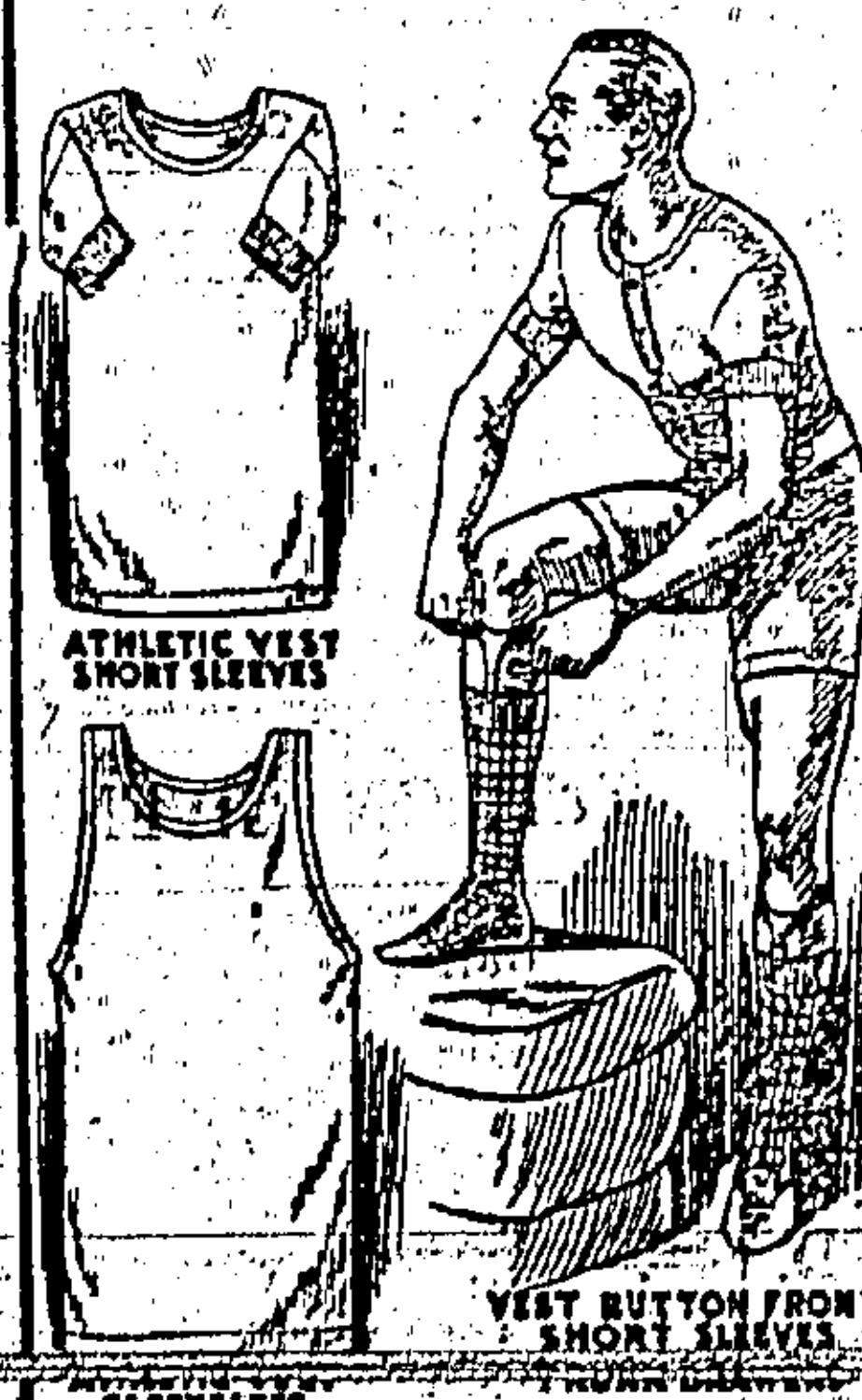


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SALARY COMMISSION PROPOSALS.

RISE IN HIGH COST OF LIVING.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4.)

The question of pensions was not, in fact, referred to the Commission, although the effect of the report, broadly speaking is that if exchange is in the neighbourhood of 2/-, to confer benefits on sterling employees, in respect of pensions and leave pay only.

I am not suggesting that the present adequacy of pensions is not ripe for enquiry, but that they were, according to my reading, not within the terms of reference, or if they were, that the field covered by the commissioners were not sufficiently wide.

In considering the report, there are four broad principles we should not lose sight of, and which the commissioners appear to have kept in mind when arriving at the decisions they did—

- (1) That exchange was likely to remain in the neighbourhood of 2/-, because in paragraph 7 of the report, they say, "the dollar is now a little under 2/- and there is some probability that it will remain in the region of 2/-."
- (2) The recommendation of the second 15 per cent. for married officers and 7 1/2 per cent. for unmarried officers, being a high cost of living allowance, was to be payable either wholly, partly, or not at all, at the discretion of the Government (see paragraph 12 of the report).
- (3) In fixing sterling salaries they did not intend to give to an officer more dollars than he was then getting, because in paragraph 13 of the Report they say, "we have endeavoured to retain to an officer the number of dollars he is at present drawing."
- (4) That as regards dollar salaries, they intended to give them an all round increase of 20 per cent., and this is so stated in paragraph 14 of the Report.

Before dealing with the recommendations of the Commission, we should consider the position of Government salaries at the present time.

- (1) Sterling officers are paid on the basis, authorized after the 1919 Salaries Commission had delivered its report, converted at \$18 to the £, plus an allowance of 2 per cent. per penny as the sterling exchange drops from 2/6 down to 1/9 in respect of married officers, and 1 per cent. for unmarried officers, that is to say, with a maximum of 18 per cent. and 9 per cent., respectively, which means an increase over the nominal salaries of 34.4 per cent. on reversion in respect of married officers, and 27.3 per cent. for unmarried officers, on a 2/- basis.

It should here be noted that since the Commission delivered its report, the Finance Committee were approached by the Government and asked to extend the exchange compensation scale down to 1/6, so as to assist them over a period of uncertainty, to which the Finance Committee agreed, but as a temporary measure only, and subject to any decision that might be come to, in reference to the Report. It was not the intention of the Finance Committee to make this permanent, and they were not prepared to treat it even as a high cost of living allowance. They had not then considered the report, and this decision was a temporary one only, and was not intended to bind them permanently in any way, but merely to assist the Government out of a temporary difficult situation, that had then arisen.

- (2) Dollar officers are paid on the basis authorized after the 1919 Salaries Commission had delivered its report, and were settled from time to time during the years 1920 and 1921. It is not possible to give any satisfactory idea of what the increases, either sterling or dollar, amounted to, as the information has never been in my hands.

The Halcyon Years.

It is, I think, fair to assume they were on a generous scale. The years, 1919, 1920 and 1921 were halcyon years—I think without doubt the most prosperous period in the Colony's history—many of us will remember those days of prosperity, the fat balance sheet, and the overflowing banking accounts. The average rate of exchange for the year 1919 was 3/6.7-18; for 1920 4/3.11-16; and for 1921 2/7.7-13. It was a period when generosity was the order of the day, and it was not until 1923 that this artificial situation subsided, rather more quickly than was pleasant, to be sure.

It is a fair argument, I think, that the high rates of exchange which we have enjoyed in past years, have created an unduly and unwarranted high standard of living, and must now be reduced. We must cut our coat according to our cloth.

In 1925 certain rent allowances were granted after 10 years' service.

Let us now consider broadly, what the Commissions have recommended.

- (1) To sterling officers, the nominal salaries fixed after the 1919 Commission, plus 15 per cent., plus a further 15 per cent., as a high cost of living allowance in respect of married officers, and 7 1/2 per cent. for unmarried officers, convertible at the rate of the day, which, if granted in toto, would mean an increase over the nominal salaries of 32 1/2 per cent., in respect of married officers and say 16 per cent. for unmarried officers on a 2/- basis.

It should here be noted, that the second 15 per cent. and 7 1/2 per cent., i.e., the high cost of living allowance, discretionary in the Government—that is to say it can be given in toto, in part or not at all, if the Government so desire. The Commission recommended that the first 15 per cent. should be taken into account for leave and pensions, whereas at the present time leave and pensions are calculated on the nominal salary only.

- (2) To dollar officers, a 20 per cent. all round increase, on the basis authorized after the 1919 Salaries Commission had delivered its report.
- (3) The housing provision or rent allowance as at present existing are generally approved; there are, however, certain recommendations in respect of the dollar officers who have not had 10 years' service, and are referred to in paragraph 180 of the report.

Generally, an officer gets housing accommodation, on the basis of 6 per cent. of his salary and 1 per cent. for furniture, or an allowance, which in the case of sterling officers works out from \$100 to \$200 per month. The Report of the Commission must now be viewed from two aspects.

- (1) The recommendations in respect of the sterling officers, and
- (2) The recommendations in respect of the dollar officers.

As regard (1) the sterling officers. The exchange has not remained at 2/-, but something which was not foreseen by any one has happened—exchange has dropped to the neighbourhood of 1/6, a fall of no less than 25 per cent.—the Commission visualized an exchange of about 2/-, and did not intend to give to an officer more dollars than he is already drawing, but on the basis of conversion recommended, he gets the full benefit of the drop, which was not contemplated.

Now, I do not think anyone will argue that the cost of living has risen to anything like the extent the dollar has fallen, in other words an officer will receive, under the report, dollars substantially in excess of any rise in the cost of living, so that the officer will benefit to an extent the Commission did not intend.

Let us now take a concrete case of an officer, who is entitled to a salary of £1,000 per annum. At the present time on the basis of a 2/- dollar he will receive \$1,120 per month—and with his maximum exchange compensation is \$1,180 per month—his exchange compensation is worth \$60 per month to him. Under the report, on the basis of 2/-, he will get \$1,109 per month—in fact he loses \$118 per month, whilst if exchange is 1/6 he will get \$1,460 per month, or an increase of \$250 per month.

It might be fairly argued that the Commissioners intended to give him \$18 per month less than he is at present drawing; but the drop in exchange will give him a rise of \$280 per month. If the report is adopted, less the second 15 per cent., he would get \$1,277 per month, or an increase of \$175 per month.

If I am correct in my submission—that the question of pensions was not within the terms of reference, and should be dealt with in a different manner—then I arrive at the conclusion that for the practical purposes the basis of the report, as regards sterling officers, has gone, and some very substantially amended formula ought to be adopted.

As regard (2) the dollar officers. In the first place we do not know what was the actual result of the 1919 Commission, but we are inclined to think it was possibly generous. On the face of the report under review, the Commissioners recommended an all round increase of 20 per cent. on the results of the 1919 Salaries Commission.

The dollar officers cover a great range of employment, and it is in the various classes of employment.

When considering Government salaries, one must bear in mind certain advantages they receive such as pensions, passages for themselves and family, housing or rent allowance, preferential rates for medical service, continuity of employment, safety of employment and protection against arbitrary dismissal.

I will now give some comparisons between the Commissioners' recommendations, present Government salaries, and outside employment.

(Continued on Page 7.)

HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

CASE SWEEP TICKET No. 400.

SECOND RACE—SEVENTH

EXTRA RACE MEETING, 1929.

THE above Ticket which was purchased by Mr. FUNG WAN, CHI, having been reported LOST, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that unless the said Ticket is produced to me within ONE MONTH from THIS DATE, All Rights under such Ticket shall become Null & Void.

By Order,

C. B. BROWN,

Secretary.

Hong Kong, 18th June, 1930. [9555]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS & CONDITIONS of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on MONDAY, the 23rd Day of JUNE, 1930, at 3 P.M., at the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the GOVERNOR, of ONE LOT of CROWN LAND, at Bala Street, Mong Kok Tsi, in the Colony of Hong Kong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty's Lands, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

No. of Sale	Registry No.	Locality.	Boundary Measurements.	Contents in Square feet.	Annual Rental.	Upset Price.
No. 2142.	At junction of Bala Street, Yau Yee Street, and Sai Yee Street.	As per sale plan.	About 8340.	102.	\$	15,712

[9556]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

PARTICULARS & CONDITIONS of the Sale by Public Auction to be held on MONDAY, the 23rd Day of JUNE, 1930, at 3 P.M., at the Office of the Public Works Department, by Order of His Excellency the GOVERNOR, of ONE LOT of CROWN LAND, at Tung Choi Street, Mong Kok Tsi, in the Colony of Hong Kong, for a term of 75 years, with the option of renewal at a Crown Rent to be fixed by the Surveyor of His Majesty's Lands, for one further term of 75 years.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOT						
No. of Sale	Registry No.	Locality.	Boundary Measurements.	Contents in Square feet.	Annual Rental.	
			n. s. e. w.	ft. ft. ft. ft.		
23	Kowloon Island Lot No. 2343.	Adjoining Kowloon Island Lot No. 2313.		As per sale plan.	3,100	26
		Tung Choi Street.				

[9557]



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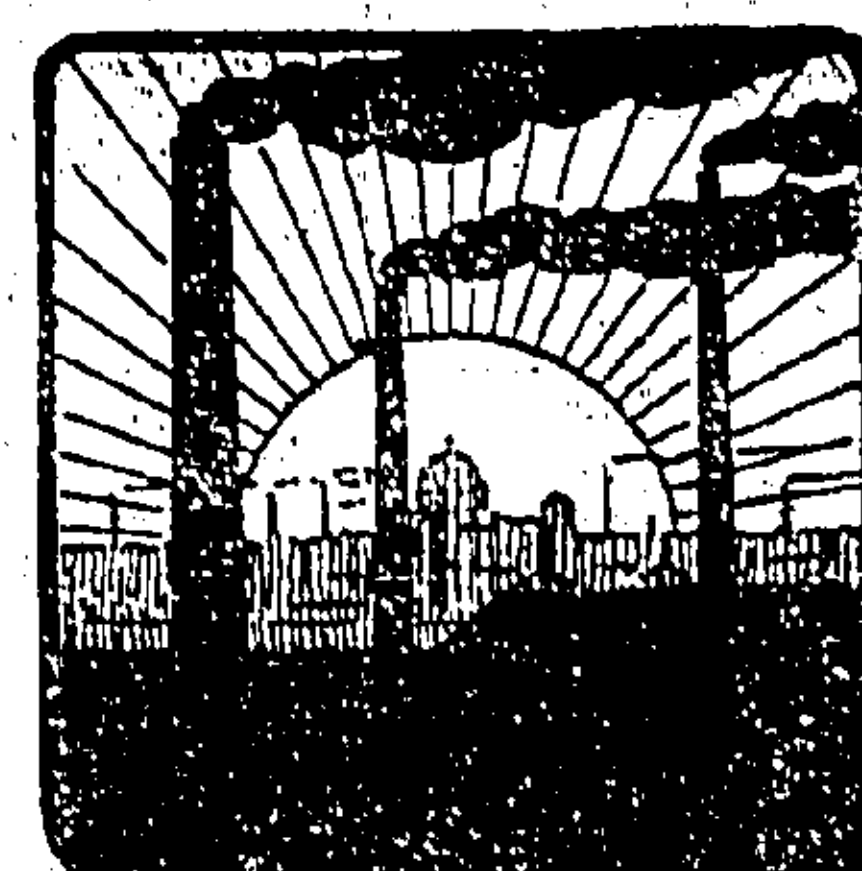
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- It Happened in Monterey—Waltz. GEORGE OLSEN AND HIS MUSIC.
The Song of the Dawn—Fox Trot. No. 22370, 10-inch.
I Like to Do Things for You—Fox Trot. No. 22378, 10-inch.
Happy Feet—Fox Trot. LEO REISMAN AND HIS ORCHESTRA.
Dancing to Save Your Soul—Fox Trot. GUS ARNHEIM AND HIS ORCHESTRA.
All I Want is Just One—Fox Trot. No. 22384, 10-inch.
I Still Remember—Fox Trot.
I Never Dreamt (You'd Fall in Love with Me)—Fox Trot. RUDY VALLEE AND HIS CONNECTICUT YANKEES. No. 22351, 10-inch.
On a Blue and Moonless Night—Fox Trot. WAYNE KING AND HIS ORCHESTRA.
Promises—Fox Trot. No. 22399, 10-inch.
I'm in the Market for You—Fox Trot. GEORGE OLSEN AND HIS MUSIC.
Just Like in a Story Book—Fox Trot. No. 22391, 10-inch.
The Moon is Low—Fox Trot. GEORGE OLSEN AND HIS MUSIC.
Montana Call—Fox Trot. No. 22392, 10-inch.
I Don't Need Atmosphere—Fox Trot (To Fall in Love). HOME IS HEAVEN—HEAVEN IS HOME—Fox Trot (Spiritual). GEORGE OLSEN AND HIS MUSIC. No. 22381, 10-inch.
Minnie the Mermaid—Fox Trot. BERNIE CUMMINS.
You Will Come Back to Me—Fox Trot and HIS NEW YORKER HOTEL ORCHESTRA. No. 22353, 10-inch.
Dancing the Devil Away—Fox Trot. VICTOR ARDEN, PHIL OSMAN AND THEIR ORCHESTRA. No. 22383, 10-inch.
I Love You So Much—Fox Trot. No. 22400, 10-inch.
You're the Sweetest Girl This Side of Heaven—Fox Trot. THE HIGH HATTERS.
Like a Dream—Fox Trot. No. 22411, 10-inch.
Mysterious Mose—Fox Trot. TED WEEMS AND HIS ORCHESTRA. No. 22411, 10-inch.
Slappin' the Bass—Fox Trot. No. 22411, 10-inch.
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SALARY COMMISSION PROPOSALS.

FINDING THE MONEY.

AT THE CROSS ROADS.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6.)

COMPARATIVE SALARIES AND WAGES.

(Approximate Dollars Drawn per month excluding House, etc., Allowances)

GOVERNMENT SERVICE.			Outside Employment for same or equivalent type of post.		
As recommended by Salaries Report in 1929 on basis of 1/3 exchange.	As at Present Paid on basis of 1/3 exchange.	Dollars per Month.	As recommended by Salaries Report in 1929 on basis of 1/3 exchange.	As at Present Paid on basis of 1/3 exchange.	Dollars per Month.
Medical Officers	294 to 1,507	708 to 1,204	500 to 800		
Public Works Engineers	703 to 1,460	543 to 1,180	389 to 875		
Education Masters (European) 639 ..	1,234	501 ..	944	400 ..	800
Clerks Senior Classes	787 to 894	590 to 703	400 to 600		
" Middle	233 to 467	183 to 400	125 to 200		
" Junior	40 to 150	37 to 125	25 to 100		
Stenographers	447 to 600	354 to 472	150 to 300		
Works Foreman (Chinese) 112 ..	171	160 ..	150		
Draughtsmen: Senior Classes (Chinese) 233 ..	375	133 ..	233	100 to 200	
Junior Classes (Chinese) 50 ..	87	37 ..	71	40 ..	80
Wireless Operators (Chinese) 125 ..	150	100 ..	125	60 ..	125
Storekeepers and Timekeepers 42 ..	80	37 ..	71	35 ..	50
Office Attendants	16 to 23	12 to 18	13 to 20		
Messengers	13 to 17	11 to 15	11 to 15		
Coolies—Labouring Classes 14 ..	18	13 ..	15		
Watchmen	21 to 29	20 to 24	20 to 25		
Launch coxswains (majority of employees) 27 ..	37	25 ..	35	25	
Launch engineers (majority of employees) 27 ..	37	25 ..	35	25	
Motor Drivers	46 to 54	43 to 50	45 to 50		

Three Phases of Problem.

Subsequently representatives of the employers, who had been consulted by the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, were afforded an opportunity of meeting the members of the Commission, but little result was possible, because in the first place, the report had already been completed and published, and secondly, the commissioners could only deal with matters within the terms of the reference, but three important aspects of the problem became apparent.

- (1) That the commissioners did not consider it necessary to consult outside employers, and had confined their investigations to Government employees.
- (2) That they did not take into their consideration the effect of their report on outside employment, or attempt to decide on an economical wage and
- (3) They were not by the terms of reference called upon to consider how their recommendations should be implemented.

Later, the same employers met the Government, and heard from Government representatives, appointed for the purpose, the general views of the Government on the report.

The general conclusion to which I am driven is, that in view of the very strong opinion expressed adverse to the report, the recommendations of the commissioners require further and wider investigation on a much more extended basis.

Let us now turn to the cost of the report to the Colony, should we adopt it.

- The present sterling salaries, including exchange compensation, on a basis of exchange at 1/10, which is the basis now budgeted for, will cost \$3,340,034. The present dollar salaries, including rent allowances, will cost \$3,781,173, making a total cost to the Colony of \$7,121,207.
- If the report is adopted in its entirety, the extra cost to the Colony beyond the present budget figures, of the sterling salaries, will be \$1,579,270, and the dollar salaries \$603,723, making a total extra cost of \$2,182,993.
- If the report is adopted less the second 15 per cent. (high cost of living), and less the further rent allowances recommended by the Commission, the cost to the Colony beyond the present budget figures will be \$2,048,917.
- Should the temporary concession, that is to say, exchange compensation down to 1/8, be regarded as a permanent concession and as already granted, then leaving out the second 15 per cent. (high cost of living), and less the further rent allowances recommended by the Commission, the cost to the Colony will be \$1,871,517.
- The saving on the second 15 per cent. (high cost of living) would be \$245,800, and on the extra rent allowance recommended \$245,281.

At the Cross Roads.

It is at this point, Sir, that we come to the cross roads.

It is often said that comparisons are odious—that may be true in many cases, but in considering such an important matter as this, when so much public money is involved, it seems to me that only by obtaining evidence from other employers in the Colony, a fair and just conclusion could possibly be arrived at, and, in my opinion, the terms of reference ought to have been wider in their scope, much of the bitter feeling that now exists would then have been avoided. Surely those who will have eventually to bear the cost have a right to be consulted.

The figures disclosed by the comparative table I have just read shows that wages paid by Government at the present time and wages paid in outside employment for the same or similar posts is distinctly in favour of the civil servants; I may say those figures were not obtained in any haphazard fashion, they have been supplied by one who has an intimate knowledge of the facts.

Government may retort by saying that employees in commercial firms are insufficiently paid—my answer to that must be a repeat of what I have already said—"we must cut our coat according to our cloth." Business firms are compelled to do so, and I fail to see why Government should not do likewise.

If, unhappily, it should be true that wages paid in this Colony by business firms are too low, do not blame employers, for there are abundant reasons in justification, of which the law of supply and demand is partly but by no means entirely responsible.

I can state without fear of contradiction that at no time during my 30 years' residence in this Colony has it been more difficult for commercial firms to balance their books and come out ever so little on the right side than it is to-day, and this applies equally to those engaged in shipping, insurance, imports, exports, wholesale and retail trading, and I must confess I can see no immediate prospects of an improvement.

I received two days ago a copy of a letter addressed to the Government by the chairman of the Kowloon Residents' Association, expressing the alarm that is felt by members of that Association at the prospect of an increase in the assessment tax.

This letter comes very timely, and without doubt the same feeling exists throughout the Colony—though, at the moment, it may not be generally realised what the effect of any further increase in taxation will mean to thousands of non-official residents who are already sorely pressed by high rents and increasingly high cost of living.

Government has in the past asked for, and received, valuable advice from the K.R.A., and I do most sincerely trust that Your Excellency will now give a full and sympathetic heed to their request.

Unofficial members and the rest of the Colony owe a debt of gratitude to the Committee of the Association for their appeal to Government.

I can assure Your Excellency that it would give me great pleasure to approve without further reference, the Commission's Report, were it possible, and were it in my opinion justified, but in all honesty, I cannot see how it is possible without inflicting an intolerable hardship on trade and the Colony generally, nor in view of the figures which I have already referred to.

How far my colleagues will approve the manner in which I have expressed my views I do not know, but on this we are of one mind—that owing to entirely changed conditions since the report was presented, a re-survey is absolutely necessary and essential.

Circumstances Alter Cases.

Without again going over all the figures, I will only remind Your Excellency that in all their consideration and calculations, the commissioners visualised the dollar as remaining in the region of about 2/-; they never contemplated anything approaching 1/8 (the figure to which temporary adjustments have already been granted to sterling salaried people). How much more, then, is it necessary to review the whole matter with the dollar at 1/3! Will it for one moment be suggested that the Commission be called upon to consider the matter on the basis of these figures, they would have arrived at the same conclusion? It is for this reason, above all others, that I most earnestly beg Your Excellency to give effect to the amendment.

MR. C. G. MACKIE SECONDS.

Seconding the Hon. Mr. Owen Hughes, the Hon. Mr. Gordon Mackie said:—In support of the amendment proposed by the hon. member representing the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, I, chairman of the Chamber, wish to endorse the arguments which he, and through him, Mr. Shenton, have put forward against the adoption of the report of the Salaries Commission. The principal business interests in the Colony have clearly shown that the present salaries of both the sterling and dollar paid officers compare favourably with the salaries paid to employees in commercial and industrial concerns. All employers in the Colony have recognized that within the last few years the cost of living has increased and this has been allowed for in the present scale of wages paid, particularly to locally engaged assistants.

The abnormal drop in the value of the dollar is quite another question, but to meet this situation, employers generally have granted their sterling paid employees an exchange compensation to help them out of their difficulties. In the absence of trade, this means a severe tax on employers, a strain that some may find it hard to stand. It is also recognized that if the present low level of exchange continues for a period, the cost of living is likely to increase still more. This may necessitate a further adjustment of wages in the case of locally engaged assistants. Any adjustment, however, would be of a temporary nature.

The all round increase of 20 per cent. to dollar paid employees recommended by the Salaries Commission is, in the opinion of the business interests in this Colony, quite unjustified.

A Heavy Burden.

By the adoption of the report of the Salaries Commission, a heavy burden would be thrown on the tax-payers of this Colony and would be reflected by a still further increase in the cost of living. I understand it is not proposed to introduce an increase in the rates now, but this will be necessary in the immediate future if the scale of salaries recommended is brought into force.

Any action of the Government which tends to place an additional hamper on trade at the present time must be viewed with grave concern by all who are dependent on the future prosperity of Hong Kong.

With these remarks, I beg to second the amendment proposed by the Hon. Mr. Owen Hughes.

Hon. Mr. J. J. Paterson: I would like to register my support to the amendment, but as the case has been very ably and fully dealt with, I do not propose to speak.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

GOVERNMENT CANNOT ACCEPT AMENDMENT.

The Colonial Secretary:—Sir, I have listened with much interest to the able speech by the proposer of the amendment, but I am authorized to say that the Government cannot accept the amendment proposed by my hon. friend Mr. Owen Hughes.

The reasons for this decision are I think set out sufficiently fully in the remarks with which I introduced the substantive motion, and the Government cannot see any sufficient grounds for further delay.

It must be remembered that, the salaries report has been under public discussion since September last. It has been exhaustively considered by a special committee of the Chamber of Commerce and the very full report of that special committee, which has been adopted by the committee of the Chamber, has been examined by the Government and by the Secretary of State. In fact much of the delay which has occurred has been due to the desire of the Government to meet the wishes of the unofficial members that the scheme should not be proceeded with until the views of the Chamber had been first ascertained and then considered, both locally and by the Secretary of State.

Moreover the Chamber's representatives, with members of the special committee, had interviews both with members of the commission and with representatives of the Government. The recommendations of the commission have been very fully ventilated in the Press. The full facts are before us and I am at a loss to know what the hon. member hopes to gain from a further committee on the report—except delay, and as I said before, the Government sees no sufficient justification for further delay. The matter has been under consideration since early in 1928. The commission took nearly a year over its work and another committee, which, as my hon. friend has carefully pointed out, was to go for a wider consideration of a much more extended basis, might easily take nearly as long, and when its recommendations were received, we might then be asked for yet another committee because conditions had undergone still further changes and so we might go on piling committee on committee till hope deferred had made sick the heart of every Government servant in the Colony. Many of the large firms have already taken action to compensate

their employees for the drop in the dollar and it is high time that Government took action in the interests of its dollar as well as its sterling-salaried officers if it is to retain a reasonably contented service. I was glad to notice the generous tribute in the hon. member's speech to the work of the commissioners. I associate myself in that tribute for the Government is satisfied that it had very able commissioners indeed, and that, whomever it appointed, it would not have been likely to obtain a more equitable report.

The Pensions Question.

I regret that I do not quite follow the hon. member's argument as regards pensions. Pensions are based on salary on a scheme which is more or less uniform throughout the Colonial services, and any recommendations as to salary necessarily have a reaction on pensions; but the question of pensions was not specifically referred to the commission and it is not likely that Hong Kong would be permitted to make any radical departure from the general principles on which pensions are calculated throughout the Colonial services.

The hon. member assumes that the increases in 1919-20-21 were on a generous scale. He admits he has no evidence of this beyond the fact that to quote his words, "generosity was the order of the day." I depreciate most strongly this attempt to prejudice the minds of hon. members by assumptions supported by so flimsy an excuse. How gratuitous the assumption is can be shown by a reference to the Hansard of 1919. If the Council will allow me I should like to read what one of the unofficial members of that day said on the 1919 salaries revision.

I quote from the speech of the Hon. Mr. R. G. Shevan on pages 101 and 102 of the 1919 Hansard. "There is only one matter which I really meant to refer to. I had the honour to serve on the Civil Servants' Salary Commission and I was rather surprised when I returned to the Colony to find that no official announcement had been made on that subject. As to our recommendations I think I may say, without revealing any secrets that we approached the matter determined not to lay ourselves open to any charges of extravagance. We meant to be as economical and conservative of the Colony's money as we could possibly be, but I am bound to say that on inquiry into the matter, we found that the case for the civil servants for the redress of their grievances was overwhelmingly strong. They have suffered long and silently and stoically from the fluctuations of exchange, from the high rent of houses and from the general increased cost of living in the Colony. We examined personally every applicant, and in no instance did we recommend any expenditure or any increase that we did not think absolutely justified by facts. It was a matter of bare justice and nothing more."

But, Sir, we are not dealing now with the question of whether the salaries fixed in 1919-20 were generous at that time. Many of us were not here then and cannot say how they compared with the cost of living in those days. What we have to consider is whether the present salaries and system of payment are fitted to the conditions of to-day.

The Variable Factor.

Again the hon. member says that owing to the drop of the dollar the sterling paid officer will benefit to an extent the commission did not intend. On this I join issue with him. The hon. member seems to me to have forgotten the variable factor introduced by the commission. If I understood the commissioners correctly they did intend that an officer should receive the full dollar equivalent of his substantive salary however low the dollar may fall, and that adjustment should be made by the variable factor of the high cost of living allowance of 15 per cent or 7 1/2 per cent. The scheme of conversion is not something specially devised for Government servants. I believe I am right in saying that it is in force to-day in at least one very large commercial firm in the Colony.

The hon. member refers to certain advantages enjoyed by Government servants such as pensions, passages, housing or rent allowances, preferential rates for medical service, continuity of employment, safety of employment and protection against dismissal. Now these preferential medical rates have no practical bearing above the lower grades. There is a certain continuity and safety of employment and protection against unjust dismissal, but I doubt if they amount to much as compared with the security enjoyed by any honest hard working officer in any of the large commercial firms. The Government service cannot be compared with the small business employing a small number of clerks or assistants. It can only be compared with large firms employing large staffs of varied character and among these it would rank probably as the largest. The hon. member speaks as though only Government servants enjoyed the privileges he refers to, but which of the large firms has not found it necessary to provide some form of

(Continued on Page 10.)

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The primitives were crafty men. They always maintained a reserve food supply cached away in case of need. We may as well take a hint from them—saving, not food, but ENERGY. KEEP A RESERVE OF ENERGY BY DRINKING

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

IN H.B.M. CONSULAR COURT
FOR AMOY.BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION
No. 3 of 1929.

Re TAIT & COMPANY, AMOY.

NOTICE OF FIRST & FINAL DIVIDEND.

A FIRST AND FINAL DIVIDEND OF TWENTY AND A HALF PER CENTUM has been declared in the Matter of TAIT & Co., late of THE BURN, AMOY, Merchants, who were adjudicated Bankrupt on 18th October, 1929, and the same may be received on Application at the Office of MESSRS. LOWE, BINGHAM & MATTHEWS, Chartered Accountants, 3, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG, on WEDNESDAY, THE TWENTY FIFTH DAY OF JUNE, 1930, or on Any Subsequent Week Day between the Hours of 9 A.M. and 12 NOON.

Creditors applying for Payment must produce any Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes or other Securities held by them and must sign a Receipt in the Prescribed Form.

JOHN FLEMING, C.A.,
Trustee.
Dated this 20th day of June, 1930. [9559]

WM. POWELL, LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the 29th ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at EXCHANGE BUILDING, on SATURDAY, 28th JUNE, 1930, at NOON, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and Statements of Accounts for the Year ended 28th FEBRUARY, 1930.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 16th JUNE to the 28th JUNE, Both Days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
F. E. SKINNER,
Acting Secretary.
Hong Kong, 14th June, 1930. [9547]

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NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from SUNDAY, 22nd JUNE, to TUESDAY, 24th JUNE, 1930, inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
JOHN ARNOLD,
Secretary.
Hong Kong, 14th June, 1930. [9535]

WEATHER REPORT.

Yesterday's weather report, forecast and remarks, issued by the Royal Observatory at 4.55 p.m., stated:—

Pressure is highest in the Pacific to the east of the Bonin and relatively low over China generally. A depression is passing to the north of Hokkaido.

Local Forecast: — S. winds; moderate; fair to showery.

Editorial and Business Offices: 11, Ice House Street. Tel. 30751.
Night Editor (Wanchai Office): Tel. 24511.
London Office: 53, Fleet Street, E.C. 4.

The Daily Press.

HONG KONG, JUNE 20, 1930.

FRUITS OF "FAGGING."

There has been much comment recently in the English Press on the "fagging" system in public schools. The controversy started as a sequel to the suicide of a young boy who, it was alleged, was terrified at the idea of going back to school after the holidays and submitting once more to the system he detested. One of the most interesting comments on the subject we have seen is that made by Lord TAVISTOCK, and his views are worth summarising as the opinion of a man of the world—not a schoolmaster, nor a disgruntled critic of the "idle rich," but a nobleman who, within the last twenty-five years, has had personal experience of "fagging." Fair criticism of public schools and their institutions is rendered difficult by the fact that no two schools are exactly alike, nor has a school the same tone at different periods of its history. The only people who really know what is going on inside a school are the boys themselves, and they may not have arrived at that maturity and balance of mind which are desirable for assessing justly the good and the evil.

Speaking of his own school at the time when he was there, the noble Marquess declares without qualification that fagging did some harm and no good whatever. For the fag it constituted a tiresome, but not serious, interruption to work and social amenities. There was nothing in it to develop or discipline character in a helpful way; and, occasionally, though rarely, it provided a basis for rather cruel and pernicious bullying. For the fag-master it was thoroughly injurious. Young fellows verging on manhood, with their heads already in some cases unduly swollen by athletic successes, were encouraged to use privilege and power for personal and selfish ends; and Lord TAVISTOCK is certain that not infrequently the habit persisted in later life. Of any idea of service and responsibility there was none. The prefects never spoke to lower boys except to give them their orders; and they did absolutely nothing for them that involved the least bit of self-sacrifice. It may be said "autre écoles," or "autres temps, autres mœurs," and none can deny the possibility; but I keep at the back of my mind a certain doubt as to the ability of the leopard to change his spots, more especially as I can remember in my own schooldays assertions very similar to those we now hear being made as to the unsullied purity of his hide.

On the general question of the defence of public school customs there is, however, one point that strikes Lord TAVISTOCK more than the rest. We are always being told that public schools and the institution of fagging have a "splendid" effect on the boys' characters. Now, if public school boys are being brought under "splendid" character-training influences, it is surely only reasonable to expect that the majority should turn out splendid men. "Of this," quite frankly, I have failed to discover any evidence at all. Certainly there are splendid men who have been to public

schools; but I noticed when I was at school that the really fine fellows in my house were almost without exception sets of brothers, showing quite plainly that it was their homes and not the school that made them what they were, for they were just as nice when they arrived as when they left. I also fail to find the least evidence (especially when allowance is made for the educational and cultural advantages of their class outside the schools) that the percentage of really splendid men is any higher among ex-public school boys than among boys of any other class. The majority, in spite of their "splendid" character training, grow into very ordinary men, full of faults, prejudices, and ignorances of the things that matter most in life. If a public school and its institutions are really to merit praise it should be turning out a majority of boys conspicuously better than their parents and the homes from which they come.

RETIRING POLICE OFFICER.

A GLOWING TRIBUTE TO MR. R. LANIGAN.

Inspector Richard Lanigan, who is leaving on retirement after 29 years' service with the Hong Kong Police, was the recipient of a clock and set of cutlery from the members of the Force at a farewell gathering at Headquarters yesterday.

In making the presentation, the Hon. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, C.M.G. (Inspector-General of Police) paid a tribute to the departing officer's zealous work which had earned him three commendations, two for prompt action in securing the arrest of two gangs of armed robbers, and the other for excellent work on the waterfront. During the time that Inspector Lanigan had been in charge of waterfront searches, there had not been a single instance of pirates being successful in boarding a ship in Hong Kong.

In closing, Mr. Wolfe said: "It is with much regret that I part from him, and I must say that apart from his efficiency as a police officer, I feel a pang in parting from a man who is also a personal friend." Inspector Lanigan expressed his thanks for the gifts, which he said would always remind him of his friends and the pleasant days he spent in Hong Kong.

Among those present were Mr. T. H. King (Director of Criminal Intelligence), Mr. W. Kent (A.S.P.), Mr. T. Murphy (A.S.P.), and Chief Inspector P. Grant.

JUVENILE OFFENDERS.

HON. DR. KOTTEWALL ASKS A FEW QUESTIONS.

In answer to the Hon. Dr. R. H. Kottewall, who, pursuant to notice, asked certain questions regarding juvenile offenders in the Colony, the following information was given at yesterday's meeting of the Legislative Council:—

During the year 1929 there were 285 boys and 137 girls, under 16 years of age (European reckoning), brought before the magistrates. Out of these offenders, 131 boys and 6 girls were sentenced to imprisonment, and 172 boys and 5 girls had previous convictions on record.

The convictions were classified under the following headings: Boys.—Felonies, 263; hawking, 377; other offences, 340.

Girls.—Felonies, 7; hawking, 73; other offences, 57.

The number of whippings inflicted on boys was 433, of which 177 were for felonies, 125 for hawking and 131 for other offences. There was no record of how many boys received this punishment more than once.

It was also stated that the juvenile offenders were detained in company with adults charged with other offences and who were not the relatives of such children, when they were being detained at the Police Court or at the gaol awaiting trial. Except in the cases where bail had been found, the juveniles charged were not detained and, when brought before the magistrate, were not placed in the dock.

SIR WILLIAM PEEL AND COUNCIL.

WELCOMED AT FIRST SESSION.

GOVERNOR'S WITTY REPLY TO SIR SHOUSON CHOW.

The somewhat grave atmosphere which pervaded the Council Chamber yesterday was refreshingly relieved by a graceful speech of welcome made by Sir Shouson Chow to mark Sir William Peel's first appearance at the deliberations of the Legislative Council and, incidentally, to tender a timely word of praise to the Hon. Colonial Secretary for his arduous work in connection with the administration of the Colony, on the eve of his forthcoming departure on long leave.

At the outset Sir Shouson Chow said:—"As this is the first occasion on which you preside over this Council, I take leave, on behalf of my unofficial colleagues, Sir, to tender Your Excellency our respectful welcome and assurance of our loyal and whole-hearted support in all matters conducive to the best interests of the Colony."

We wish Your Excellency good health so as to enable you to discharge the arduous and responsible duties of your high office to the advantage of the whole community. (Applause.)

His Excellency's Reply.

His Excellency the Governor: Sir Shouson Chow and Hon. Members, I thank you very sincerely for the warm welcome you have given me through the medium of your senior unofficial member. Had a meeting of this Council been called within a few days of my arrival in the Colony, I should have said that although a stranger to Hong Kong, I do not come before you entirely as a stranger.

I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Southern a year or two ago during his visit through Malaya. I travelled out nearly 32 years ago with Mr. Hallifax on our great adventure to the Far East, and I have had the opportunity of discussing labour matters as affecting Chinese labour in Malaya since that date. Mr. Messer and I together faced the stern examiners of Mathematical Tripos 34 years ago at Cambridge, whilst Dr. Wellington and I have been associated over a period of 20 years in health and other matters.

Among Old Friends.

As, however, it has been unnecessary to call a meeting of this Council until to-day, I now feel that I come among you as among old friends. I have had the pleasure of meeting you all and feel we are now well acquainted. Before I left London, the Colonial Office handed me copies of certain proceedings of this Council. I was struck by the simple and businesslike tone which pervaded those proceedings. I admit that I missed the quite friendly ferocity which sometimes characterised the attacks on the Government by the unofficial members of the Federal Council of the Federated Malay States. I sense here, as there, the underlying good relations which existed between the unofficial members and the Government. Differences of opinion must, of course, happen at times and I assure you I will always do my best to find solutions, and in my efforts I know that I shall have the support of you all. If, as perhaps the inevitable must happen, it is impossible to reconcile our differences, I feel sure that that fact will in no way impair the happy relations which have existed and do exist between what may be called the Government and the Opposition.

Colonial Secretary Thanked.

In view of the fact that the Colonial Secretary will soon be going on long leave, he was yesterday thanked by Sir Shouson Chow for his arduous work in connection with the administration of the Colony. Addressing the Council, Sir Shouson said:—"Before we rise, may I ask your permission to say a few words, as this is the last meeting of the Council at which the Hon. Colonial Secretary will be present before he goes on long leave of absence, which he has so well earned by his arduous work during the last four years, both as Colonial Secretary and as Officer Administering the Government. I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of my unofficial colleagues and myself, to wish him and Mrs. Southern a pleasant voyage and a restful vacation."

HOUSEBREAKER GAOLED.

SEQUEL TO EARLY MORNING ROBBERY.

Mr. Whyte-Smith yesterday passed sentence of five months' hard labour on a Chinese who was charged with breaking into and entering 533, Shanghai Street, and stealing 30 cotton singlets and other property.

Defendant said that he did enter the premises with another man but denied the charge of "breaking."

Detective Sergeant Fitches said the man was arrested in Kamsu Street when he had four singlets in his possession. The arrest was the result of a report to the police.

(Continued on next column.)

★ Local Notes and Events ★

Owing to exceptional pressure upon our space, the usual features devoted to women's fashions, etc., are held over until to-morrow's issue.

The Central Theatre announces that by special request, "The Love Parade" will be on for four days more, that is Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, June 21, 22, 23 and 24.

According to the health returns for the 24 hours ended at midnight on June 18, there were only two cases of notifiable diseases, viz., one Chinese (fatal) case of typhoid and one non-Chinese case.

When a Chinese was charged before Mr. R. E. Lindell, at Central Magistracy yesterday for having in his possession 19 tins of raw non-Government opium, he intimated that he brought the drug down from Wuchow, giving the reason that he was a confirmed smoker. He was ordered to pay a fine of \$500, with the alternative of six months in jail.

For the theft of 20 fathoms of Manila rope from No. 4 police launch, \$65 belonging to the coroner and who were not the relatives of such children, when they were being detained at the Police Court or at the gaol awaiting trial. Except in the cases where bail had been found, the juveniles charged were not detained and, when brought before the magistrate, were not placed in the dock.

The Chinese, who was charged before Mr. T. S. Whyte-Smith at Kowloon Magistracy with assaulting and grievously wounding a Chinese woman, was yesterday committed to stand his trial at the next Criminal Sessions. Detective-Sergt. Meadows was in charge of the case.

D. Gifford, an unemployed youth, and Keng Wan Chiu, a school teacher, were charged before the Kowloon Magistrate yesterday with behaving in a disorderly manner in Nathan Road. Detective Sergeant Fitches asked for a remand of 24 hours, stating there was a possibility of further charges of a more serious nature being made against Gifford. He also asked for a bail of \$200 for the latter. The case was accordingly remanded.

While proceeding along Wellington Street yesterday, a lorry driven by a Chinese collided with two flower stalls, scattering the flowers in all directions. Fortunately the stallholders saw the lorry in time to jump from their seats and thus escaped injury. It will be recalled that the flower stalls were recently removed from On Lan Street to the upper section of D'Aguilar Street, but owing to road repairs, the stalls were accommodated in the present position where the accident occurred.

Looking Back 25 Years.

The "reincarnated" properties known as Nos. 1 and 2, Pak Tsz Lane, registered in the Land Office as Section C. of Inland Lot No. 62, and held for a term of 999 years from February 7, 1855, was yesterday put up to public auction by Messrs. Hughes & Hough, auctioneers, by order of the trustees in

PIRATES PILLAGE STEAM LAUNCH.

TWO GUARDS KILLED IN LATEST OUTRAGE.

FORTY PASSENGERS TAKEN CAPTIVE IN SOUTH.

Another piracy outrage is reported from Canton, in which more than 40 passengers were kidnapped and two of the guards on board were shot dead in cold blood.

The proprietor of the s.s. Sun Li Wo, plying between Canton and the Szeui district, last month received a threatening letter from a notorious pirate gang demanding the sum of \$1,000 as "protection fee." The demand was refused, and several more guards were engaged to safeguard the vessel.

The pirates then decided to demonstrate the serious nature of their demand and the value of the protection fee. Three of them disguised themselves as military officers, while six posed as their bodyguard. They boarded the vessel at Canton on Monday, and while the ship was nearing Lanshek, they revealed their real business. The crew and guards were pinned into a corner at the point of the revolver. By that time, a pirate vessel in league with the gang arrived on the scene.

Three of the steam launch guards, who were sleeping on the upper deck, were awakened by the shouts of the pirates. Unaware that their own vessel was being held up, they fired at the pirate vessel. They were shot immediately afterwards by the pirates on board the steam launch, when two of the guards were killed almost instantaneously while one was seriously wounded and was not expected to survive.

The pirates aboard the other vessel then boarded the steam launch, and a thorough looting followed. The entire cargo on board was transferred to the pirate craft, and over 40 of the passengers were kidnapped.

The ill-fated vessel later sailed to Samshui, where a report of the incident was made to the authorities.

lice of a burglary having been committed. It was stated that at 5 a.m. on Wednesday, someone entered the premises in question by forcing apart two bars in a door and then inserting the hand and raising the wooden bars, which served as a lock from within.

In passing sentence, his Worship pointed out to the man that even if he did enter the house with a man, he would still be guilty of housebreaking.

bankruptcy. The annual proportion of Crown rent is \$17.81; and the area of the land about 1,316 square feet. The property is let for \$95 a month. The bidding started at \$3,000, rose by \$500 bids to \$4,000, and then by bids of \$100 to \$5,100, at which price it was knocked down to Mr. J. R. Michael. There was only one bidder at the sale of Crown land held at the offices of the Public Works Department yesterday, when Garden Lot No. 24, near the Magazine Gap, was put up for auction. The lot has an area of 7,800 square feet, and the annual rental is \$18. Mr. Duncan Clark was the purchaser at an amount of \$410, being \$30 above the upset price.—Hong Kong Daily Press, June 20, 1930.

Looking Back 50 Years.

On Friday evening an attack was made which forcibly recalls the days when knockdown robberies were a common occurrence in the Colony. Mr. Gerrard, acting Registrar General, one of our oldest and most respected residents, was the victim of the outrage, but we are glad to learn that his injuries are only of a superficial nature, although giving rise to considerable pain, and he was able to attend office on Saturday. Mr. Gerrard was taking his evening walk along Robinson Road, when, as he reached that part of the road where Castle Road joins it, he received a blow on the head with a bamboo. Fortunately the blow was not sufficiently heavy to knock him down and he turned sharply round. He then saw a Chinaman with his bamboo raised in the air ready to deal another blow, but Mr. Gerrard rushed into close quarters and laid about the Chinaman with his umbrella, and the latter soon dropped his bamboo and took to his heels.—Hong Kong Daily Press, June 21, 1880.

TIENTSIN CUSTOMS SEIZURE.

NANKING PROTESTS TO BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

NANKING, June 19.

In view of Mr. Lenox Simpson's assumption of office in connection with Yen Hsi Shan's seizure of the Tientsin Customs, the National Government has lodged a vigorous protest with the British Government, and has requested that Mr. Simpson be deported and dealt with according to law.

SAFEGUARDING SECURITY FOR FOREIGN LOANS.

TIENTSIN, June 19.

Mr. Lenox Simpson, interviewed by Reuter's correspondent, this afternoon, stated that the section of the Tientsin Customs revenue comprising the old Five per Cent. duties upon which the foreign loans are secured and which were transferred to Shanghai weekly, will be transferred thence to-morrow, and will include the revenues since his taking over of the Customs on Monday last. Telegraphic advice to this effect had already been sent to the Inspector-General of Customs at Shanghai. Regarding domestic loans, while his present instructions from the Northern authorities regarding the disposal of the additional duties and surtax are that everything is to be held intact, the case of these loans will be brought to the attention of the authorities concerned, and Mr. Simpson emphasised that he regards the payment of Chinese loans as not one, which is obligatory, but a loan. Meanwhile, the revenues are coming in well and work is proceeding normally.

NAVAL ARMAMENTS.

FRANCE AND ITALY "SOUNDED."

[BRITISH WIRELESS SERVICE.]

RUGBY, June 18.

Replying to a series of questions in the House of Commons, Mr. Arthur Henderson, Foreign Secretary, said that while no Franco-British negotiations on naval armaments had taken place since the adjournment of the London Naval Conference, the subject naturally came up in a "conversation" with the French and Italian Ministers during his recent visit to Geneva.

As regards the proposal made in the questions for a suspension of naval shipbuilding, he referred members to the conciliatory offer of the Italian Government to suspend while the negotiations for which the Naval Conference was adjourned were proceeding, the laying down of any units of their 1930 general programme provided similar action was taken by the French Government.

EGYPTIAN CABINET.

KING ACCEPTS RESIGNATION.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

CAIRO, June 18.

King Fuad has accepted the resignation of the Nahaas Pasha Cabinet.

GERMAN FINANCE MINISTER RESIGNS.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BERLIN, June 18.

The complexities of the financial situation which caused the downfall of the Government on March 27 have now resulted in the resignation of the new Finance Minister, Dr. Moldenhauer.

It is most probable that Chancellor Brüning will take over the portfolio and endeavour to disentangle the skein.

YOUNG LOAN.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

AMSTERDAM, June 18.

Only 40 per cent. has been subscribed of the 75,000,000 florins of the Young Loan allocated as the Dutch share.

CHINA'S WAR.

PROTECTION OF BRITISH LIVES AND PROPERTY.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, June 18.

The Foreign Minister of the Chinese National Government verbally informed the British representative in China that his Government accepts responsibility for the protection of British property as well as lives in the war zone.

ANGLO-EGYPTIAN TREATY.

CAIRO HAS NEXT MOVE.

[BRITISH WIRELESS SERVICE.]

RUGBY, June 18.

In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. Arthur Henderson stated that no representation regarding the reopening of discussions had been made by the Egyptian Government.

The High Commissioner in Egypt, since his return to Cairo, had naturally resumed contact with the Egyptian Prime Minister, and had reported that the desire of the Egyptian Government to reach an agreement with the British Government was not diminished.

Asked whether it was intended to leave the offer open indefinitely, Mr. Henderson answered in the negative, adding that up to now the Government had thought it wise to leave it where they left it at the close of the recent negotiations.

Replying to a further question, Mr. Henderson said there was no need for the British Government to make a further offer of negotiations. The Treaty was there when the Egyptians were prepared to negotiate.

CRASH IN AMERICAN STOCKS.

HUNDREDS OF SPECULATORS ELIMINATED.

[REUTER'S AMERICAN SERVICE.]

NEW YORK, June 18.

There was another resounding crash on the Stock Market to-day when prices early dropped five to thirty points.

The sales exceeded 7,500,000 shares.

There was a moderate rally in the afternoon, however, which wiped out half of the previous declines.

The rally was partly due to the recovery of the Chicago wheat pit, where early losses of about four cents a bushel were reduced to less than two cents.

The Democrats claim that the slump is due to the new tariffs, the Bill for which was signed by President Hoover yesterday.

On the contrary, the Republicans maintain that the settlement of the tariff question has had a calming effect on business and industry.

Meanwhile, hundreds of unfortunate speculators are being eliminated as the harassed brokers daily become more exigent in their demand to have margin accounts covered.

ROYAL MAIL CO. MEETING.

SHAREHOLDERS IN AN UPROAR.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, June 18.

Some liveliness, which at times developed into an uproar, together with some blunt speaking on the part of shareholders, who attended to the number of 1,000, characterised to-day's annual meeting of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.

Lord Kylsant, the chairman, spoke for 45 minutes, and declared that the Company's fleet was undervalued in the books. The group's total reserve and unallocated funds on January 1 this year exceeded £15,000,000, he said.

Lord Kylsant referred to the present unfavourable state of shipping and said that 5,000,000 tons were laid up in the world's ports. Freight rates at the present time.

He concluded on a more optimistic tone, however. He was subsequently submitted to lively questioning on the part of shareholders. The resolution of thanks to the chairman and directors of the Company was carried amid cheers and some cries of "Rubbish" and "Rot."

EXTRALITY.

BRITISH NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, June 18.

In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. Arthur Henderson, the Foreign Secretary, was questioned regarding the seizure of the Customs of Tientsin.

In the course of his reply, Mr. Henderson said that in spite of the unsettled state of the country, the negotiations about extra-territorial rights would continue.

Mr. Henderson said that he left the matter largely in the hands of the Minister on the spot.

MALTESE AFFAIRS.

BRITAIN LEAVING MATTER WHERE IT WAS.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, June 18.

In the House of Commons to-day, the Prime Minister was asked whether the Government was proposing to take any action to mark its dissatisfaction with the attitude of the Vatican in connection with Maltese affairs.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald said the Government was perfectly prepared, so far as its relations with the Vatican were concerned, to leave the matter where it was.

VICTORY FOR U.S. "WETS."

[REUTER'S AMERICAN SERVICE.]

NEWARK, N.J., June 18.

Up to the present 128,000 votes have been cast for Mr. Dwight Morrow in the primary Senate election, compared with 53,000 for his two opponents.

The "wets" throughout the country are rejoicing in Mr. Morrow's victory in view of his bold advocacy of the repeal of the prohibition amendment.

The "drys" declare that the result of the election has no significance, as New Jersey is "wringing wet" anyhow.

It is noteworthy, however, that before the election the Anti-Saloon League emphasised that the campaign was a test between "wets" and "drys."

NEW ORIENTATION ON PROHIBITION. ENFORCEMENT BY EDUCATION.

[UNITED PRESS.]

Boston, June 18.—Speaking at a general session of the National Conference of Social Workers here to-day, Mr. George W. Wickersham, chairman of President Hoover's Law Enforcement Commission, scored the use of force in connection with enforcement of the national prohibition law.

He said that educational means should be used for prohibition enforcement, instead of force.

Miss Jane Addams, famous for her work at Hull House, Chicago, which she made one of the most important welfare centres of the United States, declared that American immigration exclusion constituted "a dead hand upon the future."

Present laws were extremely harsh, she said. Wives and husbands who came to the United States to visit their families were deported if they overstayed their permit times.

Such American laws caused anguish in family groups and were disadvantageous to the United States in every way.

A Washington message states that as a result of the speech the belief is growing here that President Hoover is attempting gradual change in the country to a new attitude on prohibition.

The President is preparing the way for education to replace force in achieving prohibition through legislation, it was said.

At the White House, however, no direct statement on the point was forthcoming.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN BRITAIN.

HOUSE OF COMMONS DEBATES PROBLEM.

MOTION TO REDUCE LABOUR MINISTRY ESTIMATES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, June 18.

Unemployment was debated in the House of Commons to-day when Sir Austen Chamberlain moved the formal reduction of the Ministry of Labour Estimates in order to put aside the Labour Government's policy.

Prime Minister's Invitation.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Prime Minister, said he recalled that he invited Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Stanley Baldwin to confer with him and go to the root of the problem, the responsibility for action to remain the Government's.

Mr. Lloyd George Will Co-operate.

Mr. Lloyd George said he thought the suggestion practical and businesslike, and he was prepared to co-operate.

Mr. Baldwin did not speak, but it is understood that he has declined Mr. MacDonald's invitation.

The motion for the reduction of the Estimates was defeated by 259 votes to 230.

[BRITISH WIRELESS SERVICE.]

Nature of Co-operation.

RUGBY, July 18.

Raising the question of unemployment in the House of Commons this afternoon, Sir Austen Chamberlain said he thought it was desirable that the Premier should define exactly the nature of the co-operation he asked for and the scope of the activities in which he asked other parties to take part.

He pointed out that the cultivation of trade with the Dominions would give us an open gate to markets of the greatest promise and greatest possible development.

Prime Minister Replies.

The Premier said a body had been chosen to consider the unemployment problem. It consisted of men of varied experience, and he believed they would work in full harmonious co-operation together.

He also believed that the custody of work would be very safe in their charge.

So far as the work done by the Minister-in-Charge of Unemployment was concerned, to re-adapt our industrial conditions to enable us to compete in the world's markets, in the future that would be continued, and no change that had taken place in the machinery must be taken as a change in the purposes of the Government.

On the question of economic relations between the Dominions and this country, Mr. MacDonald said it would be very difficult to find when goodwill was better and the desire to co-operate was stronger than it was now.

The Premier mentioned that the Government had taken a body of civil servants temporarily from their own department and they were devoting the whole of their attention with their departmental experience to this problem.

Chief of them was Sir John Anderson, Permanent Secretary of the Home Office. Very important representatives of the Treasury, Board of Trade, Ministry of Labour and Chief Adviser of the Economic Advisory Council had also been attached.

This organisation had been brought together for the purpose of dealing with unemployment in its new phase and of enabling more use to be made of the co-ordinated experience of departments that had been dealing with the subject in a more peaceful way.

Mr. Lloyd George had indicated that he was prepared to put into operation the invitation which he extended to both parties some weeks ago to co-operate with the Government in the solution of what was, after all, a national problem.

"I have accepted the invitation," Mr. Lloyd George had added, "and the whole of the conditions laid down by the Prime Minister."

Unemployment Aggravated by Temporary Conditions.

Mr. Lloyd George said that unemployment had been aggravated by conditions which he hoped were temporary, but we should always have 1,000,000 unemployed. That was the problem which the Government thought to consider from a national viewpoint. We had still the largest export trade in Europe, and as far as manufactured goods were concerned we had certainly the largest export trade in the world.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

COLONIAL OFFICE CONFERENCE.

COMPREHENSIVE AGENDA.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, June 18.

The Agenda has been published for the Colonial Office Conference, which is to sit from June 23 till July 15.

The Agenda is most comprehensive, and besides general development and administration it includes broadcasting, civil aviation, films, pensions and provident funds.

South Africa, India, Rhodesia and North Borneo will be represented by observers.

[BRITISH WIRELESS SERVICE.]

RUGBY, June 18.

The Under-Secretary for the Dominions stated in the House of Commons to-day that the Colonial Office Conference would meet on June 23, and that it would hold its final meeting on July 15.

The Colonial Office announces that the Colonial Conference will receive reports on the progress made since the previous conference held in 1927 and will consider certain developments which have taken place in the last three years.

Colonial Development Fund.

During that period the Colonial Development Fund has been established, under which an amount not exceeding £1,000,000 has been made available to aid and develop agriculture and industry in the Colonial Empire. A report on the progress of this will be considered by the Conference.

Organisation of Scientific Services.

Further consideration will be given to important proposals for a combined agricultural service which arose particularly from the discussion at the last conference on the organisation of scientific services.

Educational Matters.

The question of subsidy and censorship of imported films has also been examined by the Committee, and its report will be laid before the Conference. A new Committee, whose creation was recently made on the recommendation made at the last Conference, has also been established to give advice on all educational matters in all Colonies.

The agenda falls into three heads, namely, development and administration of the scientific and technical departments, and general administration.

The first of these headings covers a wide range of subjects, namely, cables and wireless communications, broadcasting, civil aviation, meteorology and development of air routes, railways and motor transport, films and the development of fisheries.

The second heading is mainly concerned with the organisation of the scientific services, though questions concerning public health and education, to which considerable attention is to be devoted, also come under it.

Air Surveys.

Included under the third heading are recommendations of a Committee which has gone into the question of air surveys, and the report of the Committee which has recently reported on the staffing of the Colonial service. This will also be considered.

The Committee made an important proposal for the establishment of a unified Colonial service which will receive close attention by the Conference.

Social Welfare of Colonial Populations.

The Conference will devote a plenary session to a discussion of the conditions affecting the social welfare of the populations of the Colonies. This session will also deal with the question of prison administration and the methods for dealing with juvenile offenders.

He agreed that mere expenditure of money upon things which were not in themselves productive would not only leave the problem unsolved, but would aggravate it. Money ought to be spent with a view to reconditioning and re-equipping the natives.

Mr. Lloyd George added that he accepted the invitation with the Premier's condition that the responsibility for action should remain with the Government. He thought the suggestion was practical and business-like and he was prepared to co-operate.

OPEN GOLF CONTEST.

YOUNG BRITAIN CHALLENGES INVADERS.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, June 18.

Bobby Jones, after an indifferent start with a five at the first hole, over-ran the green at the third. He was one over four for the first five holes, but made a magnificent recovery, sinking a six-yard putt at the tenth, and running up dead three at the 17th, and completed the last nine in 34.

Von Elm On.

George von Elm had a nine at the fifth, and finished weakly with 81.

Horton Smith was shaky at the start, but recovered finely to turn in 72, Leo Diegel had 74; J. de Forest 76; George Gadd 78; Rex Hartley 79; E. Whitcombe 80; Cyril Tolley 84; and Norman Sutton 72.

LATER.

Young Britain took up Bobby Jones' challenge, and Henry Cotton, after an attack of influenza which necessitated his withdrawal from the Thousand Guineas tournament, returned a great card of 70.

Macdonald Smith also had a 70, Jim Barnes 71, William Sutton 78, and Lister Hartley 78.

There was general disappointment at George Duncan's return of 85, which included two eights on the inward half.

Critics Astounded.

Horton Smith, Macdonald Smith, and Henry Cotton have amazed the critics by equalling Bobby Jones' score, in spite of playing amidst thunder, lightning and torrential rain. They all played perfect golf.

Boyer returned a 73 and Rodgers a 74, as did Hodson and Compton. This completed the fifteen leaders. Major Hazlet, the Irish player, had a 78.

The Leaders.

The leaders to-day were:—

Bobby Jones	70
Henry Cotton	70
Macdonald Smith	70
Fred Robson	71
Jim Barnes	71
Horton Smith	72
Norman Sutton	72
T. Green	73
Boyer	73
Rodgers	74
Hodson	74
Compton	74
Donald Moe	74
C. Whitcombe	74
Leo Diegel	74

Other cards were:—

Abe Mitchell	75
Percy Allis	75
J. de Forest	76
George Gadd	78
William Sutton	78
Rex	78
Lister Hartley	79
Rex Hartley	79
Major Hazlet	79
E. Whitcombe	80
Von Elm	81
Tolley	84
Duncan	85

LONDON, June 18.

At Hoylake the number of players required for the second half of the championship to-morrow is at least 60, and all those being 60th pass on.

Archie Compston was an early starter, taking 73 in the first round and finishing the two rounds with a card of 147. He cut an iron shot out of bounds at the first, where (Continued on next column.)

ASCOT IN FLOOD.

BOOKMAKER STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

DAY'S PROGRAMME ABANDONED.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, June 18.

Unprecedented scenes were witnessed at Ascot to-day when the great race meeting was in progress. The Royal Hunt Cup was run amid vivid streaks of lightning and gunfire thunder.

While the storm was at its height a Southport bookmaker named Holbein was killed by lightning in Tattersall's ring.

Immediately afterwards there was a cloudburst which flooded the course and put the enclosures under water. Pools a hundred feet in diameter developed on the race-course and all five subsequent races had to be abandoned. The events being put on the cards for to-morrow and Friday.

Royal Party Remains Throughout Thunderstorm.

Top hats, frock coats and elegant new long lace frocks worn by spectators at the popular meeting rapidly became bedraggled, and people had to paddle about ankle deep in mud.

The Royal Party, including the King and Queen and Princess Mary and Prince Arthur of Connaught, remained in the Royal Box until after the storm, when they motored to Windsor.

Another man was killed by lightning at Manchester, while two women were drowned in floods in Derbyshire and three at Manchester. Unprecedented storms swept the country, torrential rain flooding the low-lying parts and causing serious flooding and dislocation to traffic during the rush hours.

The storm was general throughout London and gonsholders and they assistants suspended their duties in an endeavour to keep the water at bay.

The water became three feet deep in some buildings.

Many telephone lines were affected.

The roof of Cannon Street station was struck by lightning, together with several houses.

Messages from the Continent indicate that France and the Rhineland are similarly affected.

THE AUSTRALIANS AND SURREY.

RAIN INTERFERES WITH CRICKET.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LONDON, June 18.

Rain interfered with the match between the Australians and Surrey which started at the Oval to-day.

Surrey went to the wickets first and had made 140 runs for five wickets at close of play. Shepherd scored 58 runs.

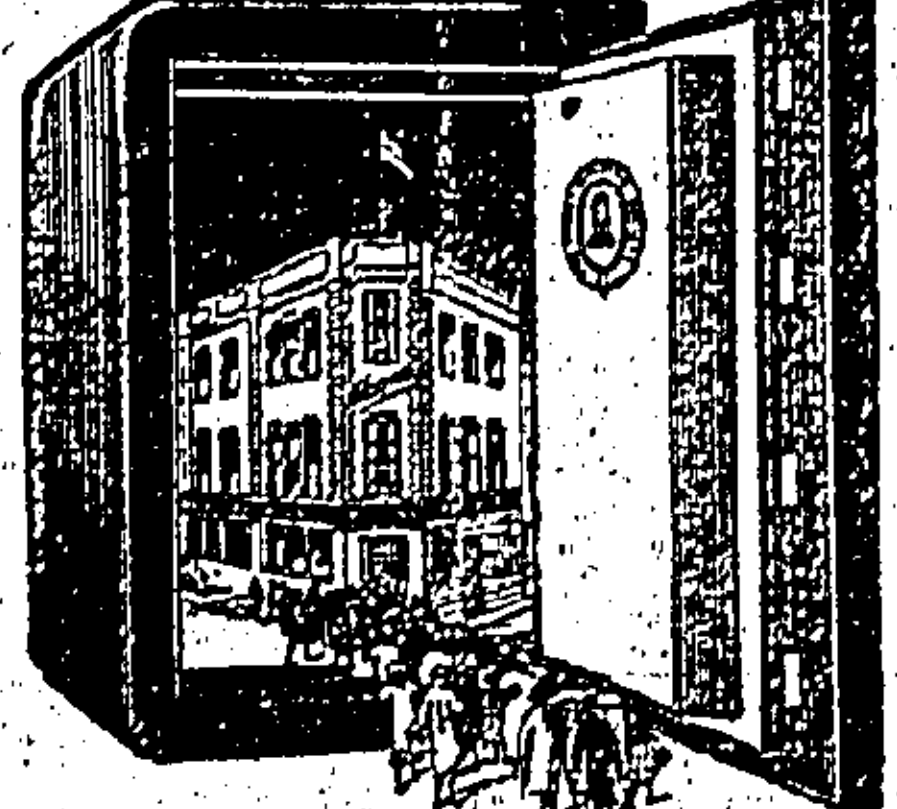
he had a 3. He also took 5 at the third. At the eleventh he pulled his tee-shot on to the washers, and he was lucky to get a 4. He had a 2 at the thirteenth, and holes pitch at the fourteenth after a bad drive.

Boyer completed the first round within 77, and his card for the two rounds was 150.

Major Hazlet returned a card of 86 and 75—161.

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SALARY COMMISSION PROPOSALS.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

APPROACHES QUESTION WITH OPEN MIND.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.)

pension or provident fund, some form of medical aid, some scheme of assisted passages and some system of housing for its employees. The details are difficult to obtain, but if I am not much mistaken you will find that most of the large banks, the insurance houses, the shipping firms, the shipbuilding firms, and some of the larger commercial houses do provide these things for their officers and that the Government servants are not specially privileged in these respects.

Cannot Accept Amendment.
I need not refer to the hon. member's remarks on how the cost of the scheme is to be met as I have dealt with this very fully already. His conclusion leads him to his amendment. As I have already said, Sir, this amounts merely to further delay. No good is likely to come of a further committee on the report nor is any greater finality likely to be reached, and the Government therefore regrets that it cannot accept the hon. member's amendment.

H.E. THE GOVERNOR. PAYMENT OF SALARIES SAME AS PAYMENT TO CONTRACTOR.

His Excellency the Governor:—Honourable Members: I think that it is desirable that I should give my views on this question at this stage, though the matter has been so adequately dealt with in the very able speech of my honourable friend the Colonial Secretary that there does not appear to be a great deal left for me to say. I ask for your indulgence if I cover, to some extent, the same ground. I congratulate the mover of the amendment on his eloquent speech and can only express regret that I have not found it sufficiently convincing. I am very sorry that such a strong difference of opinion should have arisen at my first meeting of this Council, but it appears to have been inevitable. Further, I need hardly say that it is a matter of great regret among the officers of the Government that, on a question of this kind, it has not been found possible to obtain the support and agreement of the unofficial members.

There appear to be two main aspects of this question: First, whether the recommendations of the Salaries Commission, as regards basic salaries, are justified; second, whether, assuming that they are justified, this is the proper time to put them into effect.

With An Open Mind.

I approached this question with an open mind, but with some experience of a similar question in Malaya, and I have studied the report of the Commission very carefully. The Commission appointed by my predecessor to go into this question was, it must be admitted, a very strong one. It consisted of, first, the highest judicial officer of the Colony, a man whose opinion has always carried considerable weight, who has been accustomed for many years to weigh up judicially all the pro and cons of any question, and who had a wide and varied knowledge of affairs both in this and other colonies. The next member was a Chinese member of this Council, with a long and ripe experience of the conditions which obtain both in China and Hong Kong, and with a considerable knowledge of the conditions of employment. The third member of the Commission was, if he will allow me to say so, an able and hard-headed business man, with long and valuable financial experience, and a great knowledge of local affairs, and head of one of the largest concerns of its kind in the East. The great value of his advice generally has been recognized by Government in his appointment to be a temporary member of this Council, on which I take this opportunity of tendering him my congratulations. This Commission, after a long and careful investigation, submitted to Government a valuable, well-reasoned and unanimous report. Government is unable to accept the suggestion that a further body of the composition proposed should be appointed *ad hoc* to examine and, in fact, criticize the report submitted by this very competent Commission. In my opinion, the proposal is neither complimentary to the Commission, nor do the arguments put forward in its favour justify it.

Conditions Unchanged.

It has been argued that, owing to the fall of the dollar, conditions have materially changed, but I am not fundamentally altering the basic recommendations that were made. It is true that the general recommendations were, to some extent, based on the assumption that the dollar would approximate to two shillings. At the same time, it seems to me that the Commission

endeavoured to deal with the possibility of a greater variation in recommending that Government should reserve the power to grant a high cost of living allowance. As stated by the Honourable Colonial Secretary, Government, in view of present conditions, proposes to deal with that high cost of living allowance by not bringing it into force with the dollar as low as it is today, and further, as is shown in the resolution moved by the Honourable Colonial Secretary, will not introduce such an allowance without reference to this Council.

As regards the basic sterling salaries recommended by the Commission, I am of the opinion that they are not higher than is justified. Having regard to the cost of living, similar salaries in Malaya appear to me to be higher, for, though the salaries there are quoted in dollars, the fact that the dollar there is fixed gives them the effect of sterling rates. My experience there showed that, with a lower rate of salary, the recruitment of competent and suitable officers was almost impossible, and those rates had to be raised in order to ensure our getting the type of officer that was necessary. I am convinced, after many years' experience in a large civil service in one of our Far Eastern colonies and protectorates, that it is absolutely essential to maintain a high standard of Government efficiency. More is involved than the mere carrying out of normal duties, and it would be fatal, in my mind, to the welfare of a Colony to allow the standard to go down, owing to the payment of inadequate salaries. This is the view of the Warren Fisher Committee, referred to by my honourable friend the Colonial Secretary.

Justice of the Rise.

I understand that it is the opinion of many unofficials, both in this Council and out of it, that there is justification for raising the salaries of a certain number of Government officers, but that there is some demerit to an all-round rise. I submit that, once it is granted that the salaries of a number of these officers might justifiably be raised, it is sufficient admission of the justice of the generally raised recommendation. Generally, the ordinary man in the street has not had the same opportunity of examining the relative duties and responsibilities of Government officers generally, as had the members of the Salaries Commission. Once, therefore, it has been admitted that there is justice in raising the salary of a number of Government officers, I think we are justified in accepting the general rise recommended by a Commission, who has carefully examined and compared the duties of all officers.

As regards the officers on dollar salaries, I think there can be very little reasonable opposition raised to the proposed increases. In their case, the fall of the dollar has operated even more strongly than in the case of sterling paid officers, and I am of the opinion, therefore, that the recommendations put forward by the Commission should be adopted.

The Time Factor.

To turn to the other aspect, namely, whether the present is a suitable time for giving effect to these proposals, I would point out that the Salaries Commission was appointed as far back as October, 1928, and I gather from the Colonial Secretary's speech that the unofficial members of this Council were then of opinion that some amelioration was justified in view of the fall in the dollar. It must, therefore, be inferred that, even as long ago as that, there was a feeling that the existing rates of salary were inadequate. If that be proved, as in my opinion it has been, then it might be urged that the new rates should have come into force not later than January 1, 1929. It is proposed to give effect to them only from January 1 last.

If we accept, as I maintain we must, the recommendations of the Salaries Commission as being just, then I consider that the payment of the new rates becomes a mere act of justice; it is in fact a debt which this Government must of necessity discharge. It is, I think, shown that it is absolutely impossible for it to find the money. The payment of adequate salaries to Government officers for services rendered is just as much a legitimate debt as the payment to a contractor for services performed. If it had been possible to submit the report of the

Salaries Commission to the Secretary of State earlier, it is probable that the new rates would have been brought into force as from January 1, 1929. If that had been done, I can hardly imagine that a request would have been made to Government to pay its officers at a reduced rate when the dollar dropped below a certain figure. In short, once the recommendations of the Commission are accepted as fair and reasonable, I consider that this Government is bound in honour to give effect to them.

Question of Taxation.

I have given long and careful consideration to the question of how funds are to be provided to meet this increased liability. The Colonial Secretary has set out the position as regards taxation very fairly, and I think that it must be admitted that the total of direct and indirect taxation in Hong Kong is very low, and that in normal times rates and other forms of taxation might well be raised without there being any reasonable ground for complaint. I appreciate, however, that just at the moment it is undesirable to increase a form of taxation which may send up the necessary minimum cost of living. Before, therefore, officially considering the question of raising the assessment rate, which might well be deemed likely to increase rents all round, I considered and discussed with my advisers other means. The question of imposing a petrol tax and an amusement tax had already been more or less accepted, though it will not be possible to get the machinery ready for the collection of the latter this year. Postal rates are much below what I might call the imperial rates, especially with the dollar at anything like the figure that it stands at to-day. An increase in these rates is more than justified. The imposition of a tax of fifteen cents a gallon on petrol will not be heavy. I believe I am right in saying that it will average little more than 1 cent a mile in the case of private cars, and 1 cent a mile in the case of buses which carry a number of passengers. I and my advisers considered the question of revising the duty on spirits and tobacco, but we came to the conclusion that it would be better not to alter the former, at any rate for the present. We were of the opinion, however, that the duty on tobacco, which comes under the heading of a luxury tax, might well be raised without causing any undue hardship. The rates have, as you know, been raised as from a week ago to-day.

Discharging a Debt.

These increases, while going a long way in a year to meeting the extra expenditure involved by the adoption of the Salaries Commission's proposals, will not meet such cost this year, inasmuch as they will only be in force for the second half of the year. I have, however, already stated that I consider that these increased rates of salary are a debt by the Government to their officers, which might have been discharged earlier, and I think, therefore, that it is only reasonable to make up the remaining deficit this year out of our available balances, which to-day stand at a very favourable figure of over ten millions.

By the adoption of the aforesaid additions to taxation, we have been enabled to defer any increase in the assessment rate. I must, however, confirm what the Honourable Colonial Secretary has already stated, that it may be taken as certain that it will be necessary to increase those rates in connection with the 1931 estimates, having due regard to the needs of the Colony generally.

I strongly deprecate the suggestion, which is on the face of it somewhat misleading, that such increases of taxation are merely introduced in order to pay Government officers a higher rate of salary. The payment of fair and adequate salaries to his employees is one of the first commitments of an employer, for a contented and adequate staff is an essential part of any undertaking. I consider that it therefore comes before, at all events, many other services and must be met either by economy in other directions or by an increase in revenue. In view of the light incidence of taxation in this Colony, I do not consider it necessary or justifiable to reduce other services, and it is necessary, therefore, to increase our revenue, in order to enable us to carry out various services, including payment of salaries. That is the policy we are adopting.

A Retrenchment Committee.

While, however, Government is unable to support the resolution proposed by the honourable representative of the Chamber of Commerce, I may say at once that I am prepared to accept his second resolution regarding the appointment of a retrenchment committee.

Although my short experience here hardly justifies me in giving any definite opinion on the point, I cannot avoid the feeling that we are somewhat overloaded in the matter of personnel, and that further there is room for retrenchment in other directions. I propose, therefore, to appoint such a committee at once, and earnestly hope that, as a result of its investigations, it may be possible to effect material economies.

RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE.

DR. KOTTEWALL'S SPEECH.

The Hon. Dr. R. H. Kottewall said:—Sir, I beg to second the amendment. I need not enter into elaborate figures to prove that it is necessary. According to Sessional Paper No. 3 of 1930 relative to the Salaries Commission, the total amount payable in salaries on a sterling and dollar basis, together with the high cost of living allowance extended down to the rate of exchange of 1/6d., is \$9,308,496 this year. The adoption of the motion that has just been carried would bring this sum up to roughly \$11,000,000. To this have to be added other allowances scattered all over the estimates. It is safe to say, then, that personal emoluments alone consume at least \$3,500,000 per annum, which is more than half the estimated current revenue for 1930, as given in paragraph 9 of Sir Cecil Clementi's despatch of January 22, 1930, to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Now, the public believes as I do, that the Government Service is over-staffed, and that there is room for economy. It seems to me that retrenchment could best be effected in the direction of reduction of personnel rather than reduction of salary, and also by a reorganization and redistribution of work. In my view, the Colony is not putting its splendid native material to a sufficient use. With proper training, many Chinese, Portuguese and Indians would be found suitable for positions now occupied by Europeans. I think that the Honourable the Colonial Secretary can bear me out that Ceylon has gone far towards this end without any appreciable loss of efficiency.

I do not advocate reduction of salaries attached to the posts now occupied by Europeans if non-Europeans are placed in them. I believe in equality of treatment, provided that the native can offer equal efficiency. But there can be no doubt that substantial savings could be effected in exchange compensation, long-leave pay and free passages, by the employment of non-Europeans in the place of Europeans.

I could adduce further arguments in support of the motion, but since I understand that Your Excellency is prepared to accept it, I prefer to leave the details to be worked out by the Committee. I have pleasure in seconding the motion.

Amended Resolution.

Sir, I beg now to move, as an amendment, the following resolution:—That the recommendations of the Salaries Commission as modified by the Government be not accepted, and that, as an alternative, the temporary high cost of living allowance approved by the Finance Committee on April 10, 1930, be continued until this Council shall otherwise decide, and a similar allowance equivalent to 10 per cent. of their salaries be granted to the dollar-paid employees of the Civil Service of Hong Kong with effect from January 1, 1931.

I submit this amendment with a due sense of responsibility and with considerable diffidence, realising to the full the eminence and competence of the three gentlemen who composed the Salaries Commission, who spared no pains to bring out an exhaustive report of permanent value, which entailed months of weary labour, and also the necessity for an unbiased and impartial approach to a subject which affects, as in this case, the opposing interests of the Civil Service and of the public. My diffidence is the greater because while, on the one hand, I do not consider the recommendations of the Government resolution for reactions, altogether unreasonable, I am, on the other hand, opposed to the Government resolution for reasons I will adduce. My view in regard to the findings of the Commission is evidently shared by the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce, for in reply to a letter from the Honourable the Colonial Secretary inviting an expression of their views, they stated that they had no objection to the Commission's report, and in a subsequent communication to the same quarter they expressed only the opinion that, generally speaking, local employees were less generously treated by the Commission than their sterling-paid colleagues.

An Explanation.

If it be asked why, holding the view I do, I have, through the Honourable Mr. Shenton, signified to the Government my support to the motion for the appointment of a Committee to enquire into the recommendations of the Salaries Commission, my answer is that I did so because, according to the Honourable member representing the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, the Commissioners admitted that they had not deemed it necessary to consult outside em-

ployers, and had confined their investigations mainly to Government servants without regard to the relation of their salaries to those paid outside the Service. This being the case, I considered that in a matter of such importance to the Colony, involving as it would the raising of a large sum of money by fresh taxation, the public would be better satisfied if the recommendations of the Commission were carefully reviewed by a Committee which included representatives of the large employers of labour, who had not an opportunity of expressing their views before the Commission arrived at its conclusion.

Before deciding upon the amendment which I have just moved, I had gone into the subject with great care, and had obtained from the Honourable the Colonial Secretary such figures and information as would assist my investigations. I would like here to express my thanks to the Hon. E. R. Hallifax for the facility he has afforded me. The conclusion I have reached is that, if the financial condition of the Colony warranted it without entailing fresh taxation and without drawing upon our surplus balances, I would support the recommendations of the Commission, with the exclusion of the additional 15 per cent. increase to the sterling-salaried officers, and the extended rent allowance to dollar-salaried officers.

Civil Servants and Others.

In this matter of Government salaries generally, I find myself in disagreement with those who contend that the pay of Government servants compares favourably with that of men in private employment, having regard to certain advantages which the former enjoy, such as pensions, free passages, free quarters or allowance in lieu thereof, and security of tenure. It is difficult, particularly in the higher ranks, to compare the two kinds of occupations. It must be remembered that while Government servants enjoy the privileges mentioned, they are precluded by Colonial Regulations from engaging in business of whatever nature, and even from investing in certain stocks in the Colony. Security of tenure cannot compensate for the chance of prosperity by which the income of the head of a large firm, who corresponds more or less to the head of a Government department, can easily exceed that of the Governor of the Colony. Business men, also, though they do not generally get pensions, receive the benefit of the now almost universal provident fund as well as free quarters in many cases. I am in no way supporting the cause of the Government, as my amendment proves; but I have thought it but fair to express my personal view on the subject—a view based on a fairly long experience both as a civil servant and as a business man. At any rate, I have no hesitation in saying that both those at the apex of the Government Service, and those at the base are inadequately paid. Perhaps between these two extremes there are some whose salaries could be reduced without, speaking generally, I think that the pay of Government servants is not excessive, though their number may be reduced; and were the financial position of the Colony sounder or more hopeful, I would not be loth to support a proposal to make a permanent improvement in their salaries.

Hard Times.

However, the financial position of the Colony by no means justifies any substantial increase in expenditure of this nature. At no time during the last three decades, except during the short period of the strike and boycott of 1925-6, has business in the Colony reached so low an ebb as it has reached to-day. Certainly, never in the history of the Colony has exchange fallen so low. The public is in such a state of mind that it resents any proposal to impose fresh taxation in order to improve the pay of civil servants. If we take into account, as we should, an additional \$300,000 payable as military contribution to the Imperial Government on the revenue raised for this purpose, since the Secretary of State for the Colonies has not acceded to the request of Sir Cecil Clementi to waive this contribution, the total amount involved directly or indirectly by the present proposal of the Government would therefore be about \$2,000,000. Already opposition has arisen from all sides. The Kowloon Residents' Association has raised its voice of protest in no uncertain way; the Hong Kong & Kowloon Property Owners' Association and the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce have uttered their disapproval through my Chinese colleagues and myself; and I hear that a "Kaifong" meeting has been suggested for the purpose of registering the protest of the whole Chinese community against any increase in the assessment tax or rates, which is bound to come before long if the Government motion is carried.

The Government is now asking the Council to vote the large sum of \$1,628,917 to implement the recommendations of the Salaries Commission this year. This sum is increased to nearly \$2,000,000, if we take into consideration, as we should, the \$377,000 approved by the Finance Committee on April 10, 1930, as a temporary high cost of living allowance to sterling-paid employees. A further \$400,000 has yet to be taken into account since the Secretary of State for the

Colonies has not acceded to the request of Sir Cecil Clementi to waive the military contribution of 30 per cent. on the revenue raised for this purpose. The total amount involved, directly or indirectly, by the present proposal of the Government would, therefore, be about \$2,000,000.

Even the latter figure is likely to be considerably exceeded, since, according to the Hon. Colonial Secretary, in his speech just delivered, the sum of \$1,628,917, which we are now asked to vote, was based on the assumption that the average rate of exchange for the year would be 1/6d. The actual rate would certainly be lower and consequently the actual amount required would exceed the present estimate.

In addition to this large figure, a considerable sum of money has to be found to meet the substantial difference between the rate on which the estimates for 1930 were framed, namely, 1/10d., and the present rate which is round about 1/3d., in the existing sterling commitments of the Government.

Cutting One's Coat.

Now, with its trade at a decline owing to a combination of circumstances, and with so many other and more urgent demands on its revenue which must be increased to meet them, can the Colony bear the proposed additional expenditure, necessitating special taxation and drawing upon our surplus balances? I believe that the Colony cannot bear it. The public also believes that the Colony cannot bear it. It has often been said that, unlike a private business, a Government need not cut its coat according to its cloth, but should find the right length of cloth to fit its coat. To this principle I agree with this reservation: where there is little cloth to be found, even a Government must be content with a short coat. Since the Salaries Commission made its report, the cloth has shrunk. It was on the rate of 2/6 that the Commission based its recommendations, but unfortunately they did not anticipate any substantial decline in the rate, as is evidenced in paragraph 7 of their report. Even Sir Cecil Clementi, in paragraph 6 of his despatch to the Secretary of State for the Colonies as at recent date as January 22, 1930, said that though by that time the dollar had fallen as low as 1/6d., and had only slightly recovered, he did not anticipate that it would fall as low as 1/6d., or that it would remain at its level of that time—1/6d. In paragraph 9 of the same despatch, Sir Cecil Clementi again said that he hardly believed the dollar "would remain at its almost unprecedented depreciation."

From this it would seem that had the Commissioners been able to visualise the present rate of 1/3d., with all its serious consequences, their recommendations would, in all probability, have taken a different form. It seems equally probable that had Sir Cecil Clementi been confronted with this rate, he would have modified his recommendations. The estimates for 1930 were framed on a 1/10d. dollar, and it was stated at that time (and eventually reported to the Secretary of State) that, calculated at that rate, the cost of the recommendations of the Salaries Commission would involve an additional expenditure of only \$1,300,000. Since then the dollar has taken a headlong plunge, upsetting all calculations; and the fall has had a most detrimental effect on business and trade. The whole position is changed; the Colony is to-day unable to pay even the original estimate of \$1,300,000, not to say \$2,000,000.

The Happy Medium.

Taking everything into consideration, and viewing the matter impartially, I think that the situation would be met by continuing the temporary high cost of living allowance approved by the Finance Committee on April 10, 1930, and granting a similar allowance equivalent to 10 per cent. of their salaries to the dollar-paid employees with effect, as in the case of their sterling-paid colleagues, from January 7, 1931. I should like to point out that this temporary allowance to the sterling-paid employees was approved by the Finance Committee on the understanding that no further expenditure was to be incurred after the end of this month without reference to the Finance Committee. The additional expenditure involved by this allowance to the sterling-paid employees for the current year has been estimated at \$377,000; and the proposed 10 per cent. allowance to the dollar-paid employees would amount to approximately \$300,000—the total additional expenditure on the two items being about \$770,000.

It may be asked why I advocate an allowance of 10 per cent. to the dollar-paid employees while the allowance already granted to their sterling-paid colleagues is equivalent to only 6 per cent. My reason, as stated in the letter written on May 15, 1930, by the Chinese unofficial members of this Council to the Honourable the Colonial Secretary, is that in addition to this temporary allowance approved in April last, Government servants paid on a sterling basis have had since the general revision of salaries in 1919-20, the advantage of improved emoluments resulting from a change in the method of converting sterling salaries into dollars; and, since July 1925, the advantage of compensation for the fall of the dollar below 2/6d.

In suggesting this percentage for the dollar-paid men, my Chinese colleagues and I have duly taken into consideration the fact that the concessions granted to the sterling-paid men were granted not only on account of the increase in the cost of living, but also because they have to remit money home for the support of their families and dependents, and for the education of their children. But in spite of that consideration, we think, for the reasons I have given, that this percentage is but fair and reasonable.

Though this high cost of living allowance is to be a temporary relief on account of the fall in exchange, I, for one, would not lightly withdraw it; I should prefer to see it disappear with the rise of the dollar.

No Lack of Sympathy.

From the trend of my remarks, I trust that you, Sir, have not failed to draw the inference that my Chinese colleagues and I are not lacking in sympathy for the civil servants; we only wish we could support the Government resolution. But we cannot conscientiously do so in the circumstances. The unprecedented decline in the value of the dollar has created a feeling of great anxiety on all sides. The present is troubled; the future is uncertain. To choose this time to levy new taxes in order to increase Civil Service salaries which, after all, are by no means "starvation wages," to add impatiently a new burden to an already distressed community, is surely an ill-timed action. The Chinese community, whom I have the honour to represent and who constitute 55 per cent. of the taxpayers of the Colony, have raised their voice in strong protest against fresh taxation for any purpose because of the reaction it will have on cost of living. The public, as a whole, feel that to raise taxes for the purpose in view is to penalise them for the benefit of Government servants who are living under the same economic conditions as they themselves. This, Sir, is, I think, an effective answer to the Government contention that the general increase of salaries to its servants should no longer be withheld as a debt of honour. I sympathise with the feeling of the public and I support their protest, not only for the reasons they have given, but also for another and equally cogent reason. It is that if the Government resolution were carried, and if the assessment tax were not increased during the current year, the probability is that the Government would draw upon the surplus balances of the Colony to meet this special expenditure. Indeed, the words in the resolution before us, "charged upon the revenue and other funds of the Colony," point to this course being contemplated. It seems scarcely necessary to point out that to encroach upon the Colony's by no means large liquid surplus balances for the purpose of paying increased salaries to Government employees is wrong. It is the more to be deprecated in these hard times when every dollar of this surplus should be reserved for meeting the numerous items of extraordinary expenditure now clamouring for urgent attention. Your Excellency, you have expressed the view that the incidence of taxation is light. The Hon. Colonial Secretary has also expressed the same opinion after making a comparison with taxation in certain Colonies he named. Granting that such is the case, I submit that here again any additional revenue which Government can safely raise by taxation in these times would be required to meet the extraordinary expenditure I have mentioned. I, therefore, express the hope with all earnestness that Your Excellency will withdraw the original motion, and accept in its stead my amendment which, while affording some relief to the civil servants, will not have the detrimental effects on the Colony which the adoption of the resolution at this juncture will undoubtedly have.

HON. MR. SILVA-NETTO.

The Hon. Mr. Silva-Netto, supporting Dr. Kottewall's motion, said:—Your Excellency, I beg to second the amendment. The Hon. Dr. Kottewall has covered the ground so ably in his eloquent speech that there is very little left for me to say in support of the amendment. I would like, with your permission, Sir, to make a few observations on the Report of the Salaries' Commission and stress a few points of argument advanced by the mover.

The report of the Salaries' Commission, which is the result of several months of tedious and labourious work, deserves the highest commendation, but with all due deference to the hon. members of the commission I would venture to submit an expression of opinion that the liberal recommendations were made apparently without due regard to the financial conditions of the Colony. In this connection, I think it would be fair for me to mention that the commission was appointed to consider four points only, namely:—

(Continued on Page 11.)

SALARY COMMISSION PROPOSALS.

TWO STAUNCH SUPPORTERS OF MOTION.

FUTILITY OF UNOFFICIAL VOTE.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10.)

Under paragraph 12, the commissioners recommended that all salaries should be increased by 15 per cent. and should be paid to them when on duty at Hong Kong in dollars at an average rate of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank reckoned from the 15th of the preceding month to the 15th of the month for which payment is to be made, provided that such average rate is 2/- or less than 2/-, but if the average rate be more than 2/-, then salaries shall be paid in Hong Kong currency at 2/-. On the 17th of this month the rate for demand drafts was 1/2 15/16, say, 1/3, at which rate (if it happened to be the average fixed rate) £1 will be equal to \$1 1/2, whereas at the so called privilege rate of 2/-, £1 will be equal to \$1 10/- a difference of 80 per cent.

This recommendation does not seem to reconcile with the recognised policy of the Government that it is undesirable that the number of dollars drawn locally by Government employees on sterling salaries should fluctuate with the value of the dollar, etc., as mentioned in paragraph 6 of the report.

Under paragraph 14 the honourable commissioners declared that they were faced with difficulty in arriving at a figure which would not only represent the increased cost of living, and I am pleased to note that after careful consideration they came to the conclusion that a 20 per cent. increase on dollar salaries would be fair to this class of officer. I may say that since the report was made the rate of exchange had receded more than 15 per cent. with a corresponding increase in the high cost of living. I think a higher percentage of increase would be more equitable, if the funds of the Colony would permit it.

I do not think the ratepayers would grudge the increments as recommended by the Salaries Commission in return for the highly efficient services rendered by the Government employees if the Colony could only afford it.

Kind Hand of Generosity.

With all due deference I would say that the increases recommended appear to be equitable, although the kind hand of generosity was stretched a little too far in some instances.

The most glaring fact is that by computing the sterling salaries at 1/6 there would be a sum of \$2,541,548 over the amount voted for 1930, and with the lower rate of exchange prevailing this figure would be augmented considerably. Since the report was published rapid changes have taken place and the rate of exchange has declined considerably in sympathy with the value of silver to an unprecedented level. The whole matter hinges on the rate of exchange. About 60 per cent. of the salaries is in sterling and paid in equivalent of gold and the revenue is collected in depreciated silver, which makes a great deal of difference.

The temporary high cost of living allowance approved by the Finance Committee on April 10, 1930, appeared to have conveyed a wrong impression, as evidenced by the remarks made by the hon. members at that meeting. It was certainly a misnomer. It could have been termed exchange fluctuation allowance or any other suitable term, as I believe in calling a spade a spade. Unless some sort of currency reform is advocated and established this unfortunate state of affairs will continue to exist to the detriment of trade and the Colony. So long as civil wars continue to exist in China, which is still without a stable Government, pessimism will prevail, and the waning power of the Nanking Government will further affect the situation.

Like the majority of the residents of this Colony all Government employees in receipt of dollar salaries are experiencing great hardships. The purchasing power of the dollar is considerably reduced in consequence of the low rate of exchange, and I have therefore much pleasure in recommending that the temporary allowance as specified in the amendment be granted to the dollar paid employees and that the temporary high cost of living allowance approved by the Finance Committee on April 10, 1930, be continued until this Council shall otherwise decide.

Plain Facts.

Plain broad facts coupled with the sound arguments adduced by the Hon. Dr. Kotewall are sufficiently illuminating to convince the hon. members of the inability of this Colony to comply with the recommendations of the Salaries Commission as modified by the Government, without recourse to other means of revenue. By accepting such recommendations the Government will be compelled to provide the necessary funds. It is evidently the intention of the Government to increase the assessment tax sooner or later for such purpose.

There are other potential sources of revenue that may be tapped which may not directly affect the public in general, but it would be out of place to suggest any such measures at present. The time is not opportune for indulging in debts or any increased form of taxation, but to study ways and means to enforce rigid economy. Increase in expenditure, especially in personal emoluments, were unfavourably commented upon last year by the hon. unofficial members, who had already foreshadowed with some degree of apprehension the necessity of having to resort to additional taxation. The Colony has gone through several periods of vicissitude and business depression, and it is to be deprecated that the ratepayers should be asked to be saddled with heavier assessment tax, which if approved, is bound to bring in its wake increased rent, enhanced prices of all commodities and a demand for higher wages, thus aggravating the heavy pressure already exerted on the economic machinery of the Colony.

Public Opinion.

The views expressed from time to time by several correspondents in the columns of the Press should not be perused with indifference, and the leading articles of the Press which represent the trend of public opinion should not be ignored.

The Kowloon Residents' Association, which has always taken a keen interest in all matters of public interest connected with the Peninsula, has, with the usual commendable zeal that characterises the work of that useful association, forwarded its report and submissions to the Government, expressing its opinion that it would be unfair to increase taxation to provide for cost of increased salaries.

I must therefore emphasize the fact that there is a very strong current of opposition by the public in general to any contemplated increase in assessment tax to provide funds for increase of salaries.

With these few remarks I have much pleasure in seconding the amendment.

HON. DR. TSO.

The Hon. Dr. Tso, in further support of Dr. Kotewall's motion, said:—Sir, in supporting the Hon. Dr. Kotewall's amendment I desire to express, at the outset, my high appreciation of the valuable work done by the members of the Salaries Commission. Had it not been for the unprecedented fall in the sterling value of silver which neither the commissioners nor anyone else in the Colony could foresee, their recommendations, which were calculated at a 2/- dollar basis, might, with some modifications, be adopted without having to resort to additional taxation. But since the report was made the value of silver has dropped in an alarming manner, which has the effect of not only changing the whole aspect of the salaries recommendations but also of putting the economic condition of the Colony into a precarious position. Thus we are faced with a situation fraught with dangerous consequences. Trade has been bad on account of intercurrent strife in China, which is our market, and the unprecedented fall in the exchange value of silver has made it worse. Capital has become unproductive for want of trade and is being dissipated by high cost of living. Under such circumstances can we ask the public to bear the burden of further taxation? The answer of the public in all quarters is emphatically "No."

The Government in its motion now asks the Council to approve that a sum of \$1,628,917 be charged upon the revenue and other funds already provided in the Estimates for the purpose of carrying into effect as from January 1, 1930, the recommendations of the Salaries Commission, as modified by the proposed resolution.

A Much Larger Sum.

This large sum of \$1,628,917 is, I understand, the estimated actual amount required for payment of additional salaries, but in point of fact I feel sure that, with the payment of military contribution and other commitments, a much larger sum will have to be raised from taxation in order to meet payment of these additional salaries.

The Hon. Dr. Kotewall has in his speech fully set out the various representations sent to us by the hon. members of the Salaries Commission, as modified by the Government, without recourse to other means of revenue. By accepting such recommendations the Government will be compelled to provide the necessary funds. It is evidently the intention of the Government to increase the assessment tax sooner or later for such purpose.

been much increased in consequence.

Time Inopportune.

To adopt the recommendations of the Salaries Commission now, even in modified form, is inopportune in view of the present depression in trade and the necessity of increasing taxation.

Personally, I am not against the increase of salaries of civil servants. On the contrary, I am on principle in favour of men being well paid for their services whether they be civil servants or otherwise. I do not agree with the idea that civil servants should be placed in the matter of pay on the same category as non-civil servants or vice versa. The reason for such view is already explained by the Hon. Dr. Kotewall in his speech, with which I concur. But I do earnestly hope that for the reasons above stated the Government will withdraw its motion in favour of the amendment, which has the effect of tying over a trying situation for the time being, and of being fair to both the sterling-paid men and the dollar-paid men, and will reintroduce the motion in a more opportune season. For these reasons I have pleasure in supporting the amendment.

Mr. Owen Hughes.—In view of the fact that my amendment has been lost and bearing in mind the manner in which Chinese members at this Council have supported us, our part not to support them in their view. We do so on a principle that "Half a loaf is better than no loaf."

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Hon. Colonial Secretary: Sir, when I listened to the speech by my honourable friend, the second Chinese member, I almost began to think he was one of my supporters, who was speaking in favour of my motion rather than in favour of the Government. I really must thank him for the very fair way in which he spoke of salaries which have been suggested by the Salaries Commission. In fact, until he had got quite a long way through his speech I felt he was supporting me all through, for he pointed out that both at the apex and at the bottom the salaries of Government servants were inadequate. The sting of his speech, however, is carried—as all stings are carried—in the tail. I gather from his address that while he is fully in favour of the increase recommended by the Salaries Commission he is not in favour of putting it in force at the present time.

Well, Sir, I think I have dealt adequately with this in my opening remarks, and I am sure, Sir, have dealt with them even more adequately in your opening remarks in reply to the Hon. Mr. Owen Hughes' amendment. The Government, Sir, does not agree with the Hon. Dr. Kotewall, that the Colony cannot afford to pay the increase recommended, and consequently, Sir, I have your authority for saying the Government cannot see its way to accept the motion of my friend, the second Chinese member.

Government's Reasons.

I have stated very fully the Government's reasons for going on with the salaries scheme at the present time, and I need only refer to what I said with reference to this particular motion, viz., that in the opinion of the Government it is not fair either to the sterling or the dollar paid officers. The old sterling salaries were based on certain substantive salaries paid at \$12 to the pound coupled with a sliding scale of exchange compensation. The scale originally went down to 2/6 then 1/6 and later on 1/6. The lower limits were fixed from time to time because no one foresaw the depths to which the dollar would fall; but there is no logical reason for fixing the limit at 1/6 and no fairness to the officers in so doing. The limit destroys the balance of the scheme, and, as I pointed out before, leaves some officers with less dollars than their substantive salary would entitle them to if converted at the current rate of exchange without any exchange compensation whatever.

To the dollar salaries officers the proposal seems even more unfair. As I pointed out before, the Salaries Commission considered an increase of 20 per cent. to be necessary with the dollar at 2/-. It must be regarded as even more necessary with the dollar at 1/3 to 1/4, for there must be very few indeed even of our dollar paid officers who have not some expenditure on goods from sterling countries.

DR. KOTEWALL REPLIES.

Like to touch upon a rather humorous remark made by the Hon. Colonial Secretary in his speech just now. He said he was almost persuaded to believe that I was going to be a supporter of the Government. (Continued on next Column.)

THE QUESTION OF RETRENCHMENT.

GOVERNMENT WILLING TO CO-OPERATE.

The Hon. Mr. Owen Hughes, after the discussion of the question of salaries, proposed the following:—That it is desirable in the interests of this Colony that His Excellency the President of this Council be invited to appoint a Committee to be called "a Retrenchment Committee" for the purpose of advising the Government where, and the manner in which, economy in expenditure can, and should, be made in the personnel and administration of this Colony.

In proposing the motion, Mr. Owen Hughes said that he was glad that the Government was in favour of instituting an inquiry into this question. The reasons for bringing it forward were many, and the speaker added that he thought there was no doubt that many of the Government Departments were over-staffed. He would like, if possible, that the Committee should find out whether or not a change to more modern methods of working would not be more satisfactory.

The Colonial Secretary:—Sir, The Government accepts the motion of the hon. member and will be pleased to appoint a Retrenchment Committee on the lines suggested. The names of the members of the Committee and the exact terms of reference will be announced later. In view of the fact that the Government has accepted the motion, I do not propose to go into it, although I am sure many arguments can be adduced, if necessary, against the views of Dr. Kotewall. Departments will be instructed to afford every possible facility to the Committee, and if the Committee can suggest any practicable scheme whereby the cost of administration can be reduced without loss of efficiency, no one will be better pleased than the Government.

TAX ON PETROL.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PASSES BILL.

An Ordinance to provide for the taxing of light hydro-carbon oils was passed by the Legislative Council yesterday. The Hon. Attorney-General proposed and the Hon. Colonial Secretary seconded. In introducing the Bill, the Attorney-General said that the objects and reasons attached to the Bill were published in yesterday's newspapers, and in view of the lateness of the hour, it was not necessary for him to say more than that the object of the Bill was to impose a tax on light hydro-carbon oils, a list of which was given in the fourth schedule.

motion. That point, Sir, showed how carefully and with what lack of prejudice I have approached this matter. (Applause.) I tried to approach it from every aspect of the question that has occurred to me, and Sir, I have arrived at my conclusions, I hope, with honest conviction. When the Colonial Secretary said that the sting was in the tail I suppose he was using a metaphor. I had intended no sting metaphor. The Colonial Secretary very kindly said that I had expressed the opinion that I agreed with all the increases recommended by the commission, with this little modification that the recommendations should only be approved of in better days with the two exclusions mentioned by the Hon. Colonial Secretary.

The Colonial Secretary also mentioned that my amendment is neither fair to the dollar men nor to the sterling men, and proceeded to give his reasons particularly in the case of the sterling-paid men. If, Sir, there is any difference of opinion in the interpretation of a former decision, my interpretation is shared by all my unofficial colleagues, otherwise they would not have agreed to extend the exchange down to 1/6 and no further. We disagree in this matter, but I do not agree the officials are wrong. The Colonial Secretary has also advanced arguments to show that the Colony can afford the new expenditure. I, Sir, in my opening speech have advanced arguments to refute this, and I think my arguments have convinced at least the unofficial members that they were not "only sufficiently strong, but reasonable." With these remarks, Sir, we have to leave the vote on my amendment to the fair-mindedness of the Council.

The motion was defeated although a division was called for. Officials voted against it, and the unofficials in favour. Sir Shou-son Chow and Mr. Paul Lauder, who were on the salaries commission, did not vote.

The original motion was then put to the Council and was carried, the officials voting in favour and the unofficials against. Sir Shou-son Chow and Mr. Paul Lauder again did not vote.

NEW TOBACCO DUTY

A STEP TO RAISE THE REVENUE.

STATEMENT OF COLONY'S FINANCES.

The proposed increase in tobacco duty as published in the Daily Press a few days ago was passed by the Legislative Council yesterday. In introducing the motion the Colonial Secretary said:

Sir,—I rise to move the resolution standing in my name to increase the duties on tobacco. Of the need for an increase in our revenue hon. members are no doubt well aware from what has been said at an earlier stage of our proceedings. It is important that our current expenditure should be met from our current revenue and unfortunately owing to the drop in the dollar our current expenditure, a large portion of which is in sterling, will cost us more dollars than we had anticipated when the Budget for 1930 was prepared; and to this increase must be added the cost of the salaries scheme which is itself increased by the depreciation of the dollar.

In introducing the salaries scheme I mentioned certain proposals for the raising of additional revenue. The first of these to be put into force is the increase of the tobacco duties, and I do not think anyone will raise any serious objection to the proposed increase. Tobacco, though almost universally used, must still be regarded as in the nature of a luxury. The tax will fall only on those using tobacco in the Colony. It will not affect the manufacture of cigars or cigarettes in the Colony, as these will either be manufactured in hand or will be entitled to draw back on export. The rates of drawback have been adjusted to suit the new duties. The revised estimate of revenue from tobacco at old rates is \$2,800,000. In a full year the increase of the duties should bring in a further \$700,000, but owing to the stocks of duty paid tobacco existing when the revised duties were introduced the Government does not expect to derive more than about \$300,000 additional revenue from this source during 1930. I now move the resolution standing in my name.

COLONY'S FINANCES.

The Hon. Mr. Messer:—Your Excellency,—In seconding the resolution, I would like to say a few words regarding the present financial position of the Colony. The financial result of 1929 was as follows:—The revenue was budgeted at \$2,876,600 and expenditure at \$3,479,650, leaving a deficit of \$593,050. The actual revenue was, however, \$2,534,475, being \$1,275,875 more than the estimate. The actual expenditure was \$2,983,237, being less than the estimated expenditure by \$2,816,363. The net result of the year's working was, therefore, an excess of assets over liabilities of \$3,662,862.

At the commencement of the year we had \$1,920,000 liquid assets with the Crown Agents and \$2,144,000 held locally. For 1930, the estimates were based on a 1/10 dollar for all services except salaries, which were based on a 1/6 dollar, and the estimates showed a deficit of \$4,555,505. The revenue up to the present, however, is \$775,030 in excess of the proportionate amount due, and previous experience leads one to expect that under normal circumstances the expenditure would be considerably below the estimated figure, thus considerably reducing the estimated deficit. As already stated, the expenditure in 1929 was nearly three millions below the estimate. The provision of money to meet the increase of salaries, as recommended by the Salaries Commission, is, however, a new factor, and it is proposed to introduce fresh taxation, including that which is the subject of the present resolution. The fresh taxation will, it is anticipated, yield this year a net sum of \$428,000.

The fall in the dollar occurred early in the year, and every endeavour has been made to meet the altered circumstances by curtailing expenditure where possible, quite apart from any savings which may occur owing to our inability to spend all the provision. Some services, however, as, for instance, sinking pensions, interest and sterling fund on the Consolidation Loan, and passages, have to be paid for in sterling and do not admit of reduction. It is difficult to say at the moment exactly what additional expenditure will be required, but it will be necessary to draw to some extent on our reserves, most of which are in sterling. The amount involved, however, should give no reason for alarm. Our reserves stand at present at a substantial figure, and will be ample to meet any deficit on this year's working and to pay for loan works carried out both this year and next, the cost of which will be repaid out of a future loan, which will be issued when the time is ripe. It will, however, be necessary to balance our current expenditure and current revenue for 1931, apart from expenditure on legitimate loan works, which can be paid for eventually out of the proposed loan.

(Continued on next Column.)

FUNDS VOTED FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

ITEMS EXPLAINED BY COLONIAL SECRETARY.

ABERDEEN WATER SCHEME AND AERODROME.

In introducing a number of items on the agenda at the meeting of the Legislative Council yesterday relative to public works expenditure, the Colonial Secretary made a few explanatory remarks in the following terms:—

Sir,—The next three motions standing in my name are of a more or less formal character. The three works referred to have all received the approval of the Council, but it is necessary to obtain formal sanction of the Legislature for the exact allocation of the funds. With the permission of the Council, I should like to speak on all three motions now, as they are similar in character.

As regards the Aberdeen water scheme, the Council voted a sum of \$335,000 for the expenditure of 1929 and \$1,000,000 for expenditure in 1930. Actually the work proceeded a little faster than was expected and the amount required for expenditure of 1929 is \$596,188.32.

A vote for the excess of \$41,188.32 is asked for.

Shing Mun Valley Scheme.

With regard to the second motion on the Shing Mun Valley scheme, work proceeded more slowly than was expected. Consequently the vote for 1929 more than covered the expenditure, but the vote for 1930 requires adjustment. The Council vote, for 1930, \$95,540.39 from loan funds and \$579,150.61 from surplus balances. But owing to the slower progress of the work, we have \$708,772.12 available on loan funds instead of only \$35,842.39, and it will be unnecessary to call on our surplus balances until the loan funds are exhausted. The Government is, therefore, asking the Council to approve of the expenditure of the further sum of \$613,929.73 from loan funds during 1930—this being the difference between the \$95,540.39 voted and the \$708,772.12 available. A sum has already been voted from surplus balances for the estimated expenditure beyond that covered by loan funds.

The Aerodrome.

The third motion deals with the aerodrome, and is due to a small saving on the harbour works. The harbour development and the aerodrome were connected works, the dredged material being used as filling for the aerodrome and \$1,300,000 was allocated from the loan for the combined works. When the vote was taken last year the amounts respectively allocated from loan funds were \$413,771.2 for harbour development and \$1,080,228.74 for Kai Tak Aerodrome. The harbour work was, ever, completed for \$416,729.68, leaving a balance of \$3,041.58 available for the aerodrome. The resolution I am about to move asks for your sanction to transfer this amount to the credit of aerodrome funds and your approval of its expenditure for 1930.

The foregoing motions were seconded by the Colonial Treasurer and carried.

alarm. Our reserves stand at present at a substantial figure, and will be ample to meet any deficit on this year's working and to pay for loan works carried out both this year and next, the cost of which will be repaid out of a future loan, which will be issued when the time is ripe. It will, however, be necessary to balance our current expenditure and current revenue for 1931, apart from expenditure on legitimate loan works, which can be paid for eventually out of the proposed loan.



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EXPERT'S FIGURES WRONG?

MR. POTTER SAYS THEY ARE A FARCE.

NEW WITNESS AND COUNSEL CROSS SWORDS.

"The expert's figures are a farce," commented Mr. Eldon Potter at the Supreme Court yesterday during his cross-examination of the engineer called by Messrs. Andersen, Meyer & Co. in their action against the Hong Kong and Shanghai Hotels, Ltd., to recover a balance due on refrigerating and ice plants. Counsel's reference was to the calculations made by Mr. Hacker, the earlier witness.

When the proceedings were resumed, Mr. H. G. Sheldon, who is appear for the plaintiff, assured the Court that he had made no suggestion about Mr. Potter's honesty, as people reading the newspapers might be led to believe.

Mr. Potter: We have no such question between us. We still play golf on Saturdays.

Mr. Sheldon: Yes, and I have played golf for three years with Mr. Potter and never counted his strokes.

Mr. Potter: I thank you for the compliment.

In his cross-examination, Mr. Potter pointed out to Mr. Rasey, the second witness, that Mr. Hacker had been unable to distinguish whether a figure was "2" or "3" in his blue print tables for finding coefficients. Counsel put it to witness that if he were on the side of the defendants, he would ridicule Mr. Hacker's evidence on the point of the coefficient.

Mr. Rasey: Isn't that what you are doing now?

Mr. Potter: That is exactly what we are going to do.

Answering the point, witness agreed that the figure was a "3" and suggested there had been a copying error.

Mr. Potter: I wonder what you would say if Mr. Turner, our expert, made that mistake?—I have no doubt that he will make even worse mistakes than that.

A Dreadful Combination.

Taking room No. 1, you say you can store 6,000 lbs. of mutton. You disagree with our figures of 13,600 for frozen and 10,500 lbs. for fresh?

—Yes.

How many pounds of fish can you put in room No. 3?—I haven't figured that out.

Mr. Potter: I want you to figure it out right now.

After some calculation, witness said that the room would hold sufficient fish for hotel use. Pressed by Counsel for the figure, witness was in the process of making more calculations when he asked if Mr. Potter could tell him the average weight of Hong Kong fish.

Mr. Potter: I haven't the faintest idea, although I am a fisherman. A combination of an expert and a fisherman is perfectly dreadful, and, as Mr. Hacker would say, the combination of a lawyer and a fisherman is just as bad, or perhaps worse. (Laughter.)

Witness said that the room would hold roughly a ton of fresh fish, and ten hours would be the actual amount of refrigerating necessary to reduce the temperature from 90 degrees to the contractual temperature of 15 degrees.

Witness was asked to work out the time for reduction of temperature of Mr. Hacker's figures and admitted it took 29 days, correcting an earlier calculation which gave 27 hours, which witness pointed out was a mistake.

Mr. Potter: You see the folly of the figures according to Mr. Hacker's estimate. It takes a month, doesn't it?—Yes, I take to say it.

At what temperature should we take the fish in?—I don't know about Hong Kong, but at the Shanghai Club, they get it in at 50 degrees.

Asked to work on the basis of reduction from 50 degrees to contractual temperature, witness said it would take 20 days.

Mr. Potter: That would be equally absurd, wouldn't it?—Yes.

Witness went on to explain what he thought were the reasons, when Mr. Potter said that the expert's figures were a farce. Witness agreed.

(Continued at foot of next column.)

BASEBALL IN U.S.A.

WINS FOR PITTSBURG AND PHILADELPHIA.

(REUTERS' AMERICAN SERVICE.)

New York, June 19. — In the National Baseball League Pittsburgh beat New York by three to four, and in the American League Philadelphia beat Cleveland by seven to two.

SCATHING ATTACK ON U.S. ATHLETES.

HIDDEN PROFESSIONALISM AT WEST POINT.

Washington, May 10. — Chris Cagle's announcement that he would quit the Army on graduation from West Point was denounced today by Representative Fred Britten, chairman of the House Naval Affairs Committee, as evidence that the Academy seeks for athletes solely for the purpose of turning out victorious football players. Mr. Britten, who has led the movement for the resumption of football relations between the Army and Navy, which were broken off when West Point officials refused to adopt a three-year playing rule, expressed the hope the Army would eventually adopt "the same code of ethics held by almost every institution of learning in the country."

"It is a well-known fact," he said, "that West Point has sent collectors to various institutions and in many directions to corral stars like 'Light Horse' Harry Wilson, Cagle, and many others. It is no surprise to hear that they take the first chance they get to resign from the Army, for it has been obvious that they attended the Academy only to play football. I believe there are other men at West Point who will do the same thing—play on the football team and then quit without returning anything to Uncle Sam for the education he has given them. It is not fair to the Government; it is not the right thing to do."

"I am hopeful that the Army and Navy will play again and that this hidden spirit of professionalism will be banished by the adoption of a new code of sport."

LONDON CONFERENCE SECRET PAPERS.

U.S. SENATE DISAGREES WITH PRESIDENT.

Washington, June 10. — Members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee today approved a resolution directed at the State Department, recognizing the President's authority to refuse to submit secret documents relating to negotiation of the London Naval Limitation Treaty, but explaining that a majority of the committee disagreed with the refusal.

In this case, it was the committee's opinion that the committee was entitled to inspect all papers bearing upon the treaty, according to the resolution. This resolution, it was explained, was merely an expression on the part of the committee and it would not be sent to the Senate for any form of action.

Senator William E. Borah of Idaho, chairman of the committee, said that the only method whereby the committee might obtain documents against the President's refusal would consist of impeachment, and he reiterated his personal belief that there were sufficient protest votes in the Senate to assure adoption of the pact without difficulty.

With the treaty forces thus strong, it is unlikely that there will be any decisive action directed toward obtaining from Col. Henry L. Stimson, against the President's instructions, the secret documents in question, it was declared.

Counsel's Strong Rebuke.

Witness made another calculation on the basis of a reduction of temperature of the fish from 80 degrees to 28 degrees in which he left out the latent heat, remarking that it was not necessary to take this into account.

Mr. Potter: Don't fence with me. You have put in the latent heat in the other calculations, but why leave it out now?

Witness did as he was asked and gave the time as 22 days according to Mr. Potter's figures.

Mr. Potter: Mr. Hacker has been very modest in his figure. I don't say so.

Mr. Potter: Yes, he has been hiding an iron compressor under a bushel!

At this stage the Court adjourned until morning.

ROBBERY NEAR THE OLD FORTRESS.

YOUNG HAKKA AT THE CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

JURY RETURN VERDICT OF "NOT GUILTY."

The case in which a young Hakka, Yi Lan, was charged with having taken part in a robbery, together with three other persons not in custody, was concluded before Mr. Justice Wood yesterday, when the jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of not guilty.

Prisoner was not legally represented, while the case for the Crown was conducted by Mr. H. Somerset Fitzroy.

Outlining the case, Mr. Fitzroy said that the crime with which the prisoner stood charged was committed on May 17 at 2.45 a.m. He (the prisoner) lived in a matched near the tunnel leading to the Old Fortress, which was on the hillside just above the Bay View Police Station. In another matched farther up, there lived two couples, Tang Sing and his wife and Lam Fook and his wife. They also had a daughter each living with them.

During the night, some people entered the tunnel and four men entered the matched occupied by Tang Sing and the others. The first named would say that the men were armed with dangerous implements, while one of them had an electric torch. He put up a struggle but was no match for the robbers, who later broke open a wooden box and from there stole a jacket and \$16 in money. Another jacket containing \$4 and a silver watch hanging on the wall was also taken.

Too Dark to See the Faces.

The intruders then made away and, Counsel added, Tang Sing would say that it was too dark, he could not make out the faces of any of them. Lam Fook, however, would say that the robbers had a torch each, and he saw their faces plainly. The reason why he could place prisoner was because he had a talk with him a few days before the crime was committed.

Continuing, Counsel remarked on the fact that Lam Fook picked out the man in the dock at the identification parade without hesitation. He would, however, say that much for the prisoner—that he had entered a straightforward place of not guilty from the very beginning, and he had never changed since.

Regarding the arrest, Counsel said that as soon as the Bay View Police Station were communicated with, they went straight to the prisoner's matched, where they found him sitting on the floor without a coat on. When his coat was found, it was damp with perspiration, and when asked to explain this, the man said that he had just had a stiff climb over the hill to get back to his matched and that was why he was perspiring so freely. Nothing was found in his hand which would connect him with the robbery, but a little later the police found the jacket stolen from Tang Sing in the tunnel.

The jury returning a verdict of not guilty, the prisoner was accordingly acquitted.

SIMPLEX PLASTER CO., LTD.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Simplex Plaster Company, Ltd., was held at the offices of the company yesterday, when Mr. C. E. H. Beavis presided over the gathering.

In a short speech, the Chairman reviewed the past year's activities, after which the meeting went on with the business of the adoption of the report and accounts. This was proposed by Mr. Beavis, seconded by Mr. Chau Yue Tong and carried unanimously. In accordance with articles 32 and 31, Messrs. Chan Pek Chun and Wong Kwok Shun retire from the board of directors, and do not offer themselves for re-election.

Capt. B. Montague Ede then proposed that Messrs. Harry Hong Sling and Mase K. Wong be elected to the board.

This was seconded by Mr. Chau Yue Tong and carried.

Mr. Chau then proposed that the election of Capt. B. Montague Ede as a director be confirmed, and on Mr. W. H. Wu seconding the motion was carried unanimously.

As regards the election of auditors, Mr. Wu moved that Messrs. Lowe, Birkenhead and

be re-elected, and this was seconded by Capt. Ede and carried.

The meeting was then brought to a conclusion, by the Chairman thanking those present for attending.

NOTABLE ITALIANS IN FAR EAST.

DICTATOR'S DAUGHTER GOING TO SHANGHAI.

Count Galeazzo Ciano di Cortellazzo and his wife, daughter of Signor Mussolini, will be shortly coming to the Far East. Count Ciano has been appointed Consul-General for Italy in Shanghai and is expected early in September to take over his duties from Commander V. Galanti, who has been transferred to the Foreign Office in Rome.

Count G. Ciano di Cortellazzo was for a number of years attached to the Italian Legation in Peking. He is 27 years old, and is the son of Count Costanzo Ciano, Minister of Communications, who is one of Signor Mussolini's right-hand men.

Count Costanzo Ciano—the father of the prospective Italian Consul-General in Shanghai—was recently selected by the Dictator to act as his successor in an emergency. The Count was formerly a naval officer, and during the Great War was in command of the anti-submarine motor-boat patrol (M.A.S.) in the Adriatic. His flotilla was responsible for the sinking of several enemy warships, including two vessels of Dreadnought type.

He also distinguished himself on many other occasions, one of which was a daring raid on Cortellazzo—an incident commemorated in his subsequent title. For his brilliant war service he was awarded the Gold Medal, the highest military distinction in Italy, and has recently been elevated to the peerage by his Majesty the King.

As a politician Count C. Ciano is distinguished by his energy, high sense of duty, and initiative—qualities which have made him one of the foremost figures in the country.

His daughter-in-law, Countess Ciano, will receive a very hearty welcome upon her visit to Shanghai, and, as the eldest daughter of the Italian Dictator, she promises to become a leading spirit among the local Italian community. She is a modern young lady, fond of riding and swimming, and is highly talented. Her education was completed at an exclusive college in Florence where the former Belgian Princess of Piedmont was a scholar. She has travelled extensively in Europe, Africa, Asia, Minor and India.

UNION OIL COMPANY.

PLANS FOR LOCAL BUSINESS.

Mention was made in these columns a few days ago of a delegation representing the Union Oil Company of California arriving in Hong Kong, for the purpose of surveying the prospects of starting business in South China. The Company is a concern with a capital of 125,000,000 dollars gold, and has been handling oil and associated products for over forty years.

Yesterday two more representatives of the Company arrived in the colony by the P. and O. steamer Morea to join Mr. J. B. Arthur, who is the leader of the party now in Hong Kong. They were Mr. L. C. Hampton, Engineering Director, and Mr. C. H. Talbot, asphalt engineer, whose office is in Singapore. Mr. Hampton's territory covers Australia and South Africa, and he has come to Hong Kong by way of Singapore to take part in the deliberations that are now going on here.

We understand that during the past week the representatives of the Union Oil Company of California have been busily engaged in investigating likely sites for the establishment of a bulk-oil installation. From this fact it may be inferred that the delegation has been favourably impressed by Hong Kong, and are of opinion that this Colony offers a good base of operations for their plans to do business in South China.

IMPORT OF SILVER.

The following regulation was made yesterday by the Governor in Council under section 3 of the Importation and Exportation Ordinance, 1912, Ordinance No. 32 of 1912:

No person shall, except with the express permission of the Superintendent of Imports and Exports, import any Mexican silver dollars in excess of fifty dollars at any one time.

CRICKET LAWS.

DECISIONS OF IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

TEST QUALIFICATIONS.

Sir Kynaston Studd, President of the M.C.C., presided at Lord's over a meeting of the Imperial Cricket Conference, last month. There were present Lord Harris (England), W. Kelly and T. H. Howard (Australia), H. D. G. Leveson-Gower (South Africa), Colonel Mistri and A. L. Hose (India), R. H. Mallett and P. F. Warner (West Indies), H. D. Swan and A. H. Fisher (New Zealand), W. Finlay (secretary M.C.C.), and R. Aird (assistant secretary M.C.C.).

Alterations in the rules were unanimously recommended by the conference. They will be submitted to the different countries represented, and will not come into force until all those countries have approved of them.

Proposed New Rules.

The suggested new rules are—

(a) Test matches are matches played between sides duly selected by governing bodies of cricket recognised by the Imperial Conference as representing countries within the Empire.

(b) A cricketer can be qualified to play in Test matches either by birth or residence.

(c) The Boards of Control of the countries affiliated to the Imperial Cricket Conference shall be responsible for submitting, in good time for the approval of the Imperial Cricket Conference, whose decision shall be final, the names of those cricketers likely to be selected to play in an approaching Test match tour with their qualifications. They must also in the case of cricketers qualified only by residence include the dates upon which such residence is founded, signed by the cricketers in question.

(d) Qualification by residence: A cricketer unless debarred by rule c shall be entitled to play for any country in which he is residing and has been residing during the four immediately preceding years.

(e) Qualification by birth: A cricketer, unless debarred by rule c, is always eligible to play for the country of his birth.

(f) Any question arising under these rules shall be submitted to and decided by the Imperial Cricket Conference.

The experimental change in Laws 8 and 9 (the size of the wickets and the rolling, etc., of the ground) were discussed.

Formal approval was given to the West Indies tour in Australia during the season 1930-31.

With regard to the complete covering of the wicket, it was decided that on such grounds where the wicket is completely covered in Test matches prior to the start of play such covering may remain until the first ball is bowled.

In regard to Law 55 (no play on the first or the first two days) the following decision was given: Where there is no play on the first day of a four-day match it becomes a three-day match, and thereafter Law 55 of the Laws of Cricket shall apply.

Four-Day Matches.

As some misapprehension appears to exist in regard to the application of certain laws of cricket to four-day matches, Mr. W. Findlay (secretary to the M.C.C.) desires that attention should be drawn to the alteration and additions to the Laws of Cricket passed in 1925.

Law 53 now reads: The side which bats first and leads by 150 runs (in Australia 200 runs) in a match of three days or more, or by 100 runs in a two-day match, shall have the option of requiring the other side to follow their innings.

Law 45 now reads: The in-side may declare their innings at an end in a match of three days or more at any time on the second day. In a two-day match the captain of the batting side has power to declare his innings at a close at any time, but such declaration may not be made on the first day later than one hour and 40 minutes before the hour agreed on for drawing stumps. In a one-day match a declaration may be made at any time.

The first Lord of the Admiralty (Mr. A. V. Alexander) has received a request to receive a deputation representing the lower deck hands of the Navy at an early date. The deputation will suggest a number of suggested reforms, about which the Lords of the Admiralty have already been discussing.

NANKING AND THE FALL IN SILVER.

AUTHORITIES DISINCLINED FOR EXPERIMENTS.

Nanking, June 12.—At yesterday's meeting of the Central Political Council the question of the slump in silver was discussed and measures of relief proposed. However, owing to the complexity of the whole situation, no definite action was taken, the majority of the Government leaders present being in favour of a more thorough investigation into the problem.

The responsible authorities will ascertain the total amount of silver and gold specie now held in the country.

A spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, categorically denied the report that the National Government is seeking the help of the foreign Powers in respect of the slump.

He said it was probably based upon a statement by a Secretary of the State Council at the weekly memorial service on Monday who was expressing his personal opinion. That opinion, however, was not shared by the responsible Government leaders.

No Measures in Contemplation.

In the Chinese Press during last week numerous rumours were current regarding possible action by the Nanking Government with reference to the Gold Bar Exchange in Shanghai.

The North China Daily News learns from an unexceptionable source, that most of the rumours concerning currency or fiscal measures connected with the silver situation may be completely disregarded.

It is generally recognized in authoritative quarters in Nanking that the silver position is now past dealing with by any tinkering measures.

BISHOP CANNON'S VICTORY.

RECALCITRANT WITNESS' OFFER TO SENATE.

(UNITED PRESS.)

Washington, June 11.—Members of the Senate Lobbyist Committee said today that they had decided they would not force Bishop James Cannon, Jr., to answer their questions relative to his expenditure of funds in his Virginia campaign against the presidential aspirations of ex-Governor Alfred L. Smith.

Confronted with the necessity for asking the Senate for additional investigating authority if they wished to push the matter against the Bishop's claim that he had acted solely as a private citizen, the committee decided such a course to be inadvisable.

Bishop James Cannon, Jr., again turned up today as a voluntary witness before the Senate Lobbyist Committee, following his recalcitrance of several days ago when he declined to testify concerning political expenditures, and told committee members that he had not intended to offend them.

He requested a ruling on the committee's power to question the political activities of private citizens, saying that while his attitude was not one of complete denial of such power, he wished a final and formal definition. The Bishop intimated that after such a ruling was made, he would proceed to testify.

The committee adjourned and is attempting to formulate such a ruling.

CONSIGNEES' NOTICE.

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The Steamship "BENDORAN."

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hong Kong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves Delivery may be obtained. No Claims will be admitted after the 20th instant will be subject to Rent. All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underigned on or before the 4th July, 1930, or they will not be recognized. All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 19th instant.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Ltd. Agents. Hong Kong, 13th June, 1930. [8538]

CONSIGNEE NOTICES.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION Co., Ltd.

STRANER "MOREA."

ARRIVED HONG KONG ON 19TH JUNE, 1930.

FROM ANTWERP, LONDON, GIBRALTAR, MARSEILLES, MALTA, PORT SAID, ADEY, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named Vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hong Kong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each Consignment will be sorted out Mark by Mark and Delivery can be obtained as the Goods are landed. Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions have been given to the contrary Six hours before arrival of the Steamer. Goods not cleared within 8 days, including date of arrival, will be subject to Rent. No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever. Damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees, and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. GODDARD & DOUGLAS, at 10 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays, within the Free Storage period. All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underigned on or before 9th July, 1930, or they will not be recognized. No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godown. MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co., Agents. Hong Kong, 19th June, 1930. [8561]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION Co., Ltd.

STRANER "MIRZAPORE."

ARRIVED HONG KONG ON 19TH JUNE, 1930.

FROM BOMBAY, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named Vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hong Kong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each Consignment will be sorted out Mark by Mark and Delivery can be obtained as the Goods are landed. Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions have been given to the contrary Six hours before arrival of the Steamer. Goods not cleared within 8 days, including date of arrival, will be subject to Rent. No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever. Damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees, and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. GODDARD & DOUGLAS, at 10 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays, within the Free Storage period. All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underigned on or before 9th July, 1930, or they will not be recognized. No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godown. MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co., Agents. Hong Kong, 19th June, 1930. [8561]

SERVICES CONTRACTUELS DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

CONSIGNEE NOTICE.

S.S. "CHENONCEAUX"

ARRIVED HONG KONG ON TUESDAY, THE 17TH JUNE, 1930.

FROM MARSEILLES, &c.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named Steamer are hereby informed that their Goods with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables are being landed and placed at their risk in the Godowns of the Hong Kong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., Kowloon, whence Delivery can be obtained as the Goods are landed. Goods not cleared within 7 days, including date of arrival, will be subject to Rent. All Claims must be sent to the Underigned before Thursday, the 20th June, 1930, or they will not be recognized. Damaged Packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the Consignees, and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. GODDARD & DOUGLAS, at 10 a.m. on Monday, the 23rd June, 1930. No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns. No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever. B. OHL, Agent. Hong Kong, 17th June, 1930. [8553]

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SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"KUNGHOW"	On 22nd June, 5 a.m.
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"SINKING"	On 22nd June, Noon
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"KAIKING"	On 23rd June, 3 p.m.
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"TEAN"	On 23rd June, 5 p.m.
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"CHANGHOU"	On 23rd June, 5 p.m.
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"SZECHOW"	On 24th June, Noon
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"TSINAN"	On 24th June, 5 p.m.
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"CHENGTO"	On 25th June, 10 a.m.
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"KANOHOW"	On 26th June, 11 a.m.
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"HUICHOW"	On 27th June, 11 a.m.
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"KINGHOAN"	On 28th June, 8 a.m.
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"SOCHOW"	On 29th June, Noon
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"KWANGHOU"	On 30th June, 3 p.m.
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"LUCHOW"	On 30th June, 5 p.m.
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"KANOHOW"	On 10th July, 10 a.m.
SWATOW, SHANGHAI & TIENTSIN	"KUEICHOW"	On 11th July, 11 a.m.

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M.S. "Java" ...	30th June	10th Aug.
M.S. "Asia" ...	1st August	10th Sept.
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CHENONCEAUX ...	15th July	D'ARTAGNAN ...	15th July
ATHOS II ...	29th July	ANGERS ...	29th July
D'ARTAGNAN ...	12th Aug.	SPHINX ...	12th Aug.
ANGERS ...	26th Aug.	G. METZINGER ...	1st Sept.
SPHINX ...	16th Sept.	ANDRE LEBON ...	1st Sept.
G. METZINGER ...	30th Sept.	PORTHOS ...	29th Sept.
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ROYAL OBSERVATORY'S DAILY WEATHER REPORT.

STATION	Time	JUNE 18, 1930.					JUNE 19, 1930.				
		Barometer at Sea Level	Thermometer	Humidity	Wind	Direction	Barometer at Sea Level	Thermometer	Humidity	Wind	Direction
Wladivostok	12	29.67	753.7	70	...	NNW	1	...	...	...	...
Namuro	11	29.39	746.5	...	...	S	1	...	...	...	...
Hakodate	...	29.61	752.0	...	...	WNW	3	...	...	...	...
Tokyo	...	29.73	750.3	...	...	S	1	...	...	...	...
Kobe	...	29.86	752.5	...	...	SE	1	...	...	...	...
Kagasaki	...	29.88	753.0	...	...	SW	1	...	...	...	...
Kagoshima	...	29.86	752.5	...	...	S	1	...	...	...	...
Oshima	...	29.84	752.0	...	...	...	0	...	...	...	...
Naha	...	29.90	753.5	...	...	SW	1	...	...	...	...
Ishigakijima	...	29.90	753.5	...	...	SSW	1	...	...	...	...
Bonin Island	...	29.98	761.0	...	...	S	1	...	...	...	...
Chefoo	...	29.39	759.2	76	64	N	1	...	...	...	...
Shanghai	14	29.89	759.0	73	79	E	1	...	...	...	...
Guangzhou	...	29.91	759.7	73	86	E	4	...	...	...	...
Wenchow	...	29.86	758.4	77	85	ENE	1	...	...	...	...
Foochow	...	29.86	758.4	81	87	S	2	...	...	...	...
Amoy	...	29.79	756.6	83	87	SE	4	...	...	...	...
Swatow	...	29.76	755.8	85	77	S	2	...	...	...	...
Taihou	...	29.68	759.0	86	68	...	0	...	...	...	...
Taihu	...	29.92	759.0	90	...	SSW	2	...	...	...	...
Taiwan	...	29.89	759.3	90	...	NNW	2	...	...	...	...
Koshun	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pescadore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hong Kong	14	29.82	757.4	85	73	SE	3	...	...	...	...
Gap Rock	...	29.85	758.2	90	73	SSW	3	...	...	...	...
Macao	...	29.81	757.2	90	73	SSE	2	...	...	...	...
Hoihow	...	29.72	754.9	88	81	SSW	1	...	...	...	...
Pratas Island	...	29.87	753.7	84	76	NNW	2	...	...	...	...
Phu Lien	15	29.71	754.5	82	96	S	4	...	...	...	...
Tourane	...	29.72	754.8	86	...	SSR	2	...	...	...	...
Cape St. James	...	29.80	756.9	84	...	E	4	...	...	...	...
Basco	14	29.81	757.2	90	69	SE	4	...	...	...	...
Apurri	...	29.78	756.3	90	60	NE	4	...	...	...	...
Tuguegarao	...	29.76	756.0	90	50	...	0	...	...	...	...
Vigan	...	29.78	756.3	90	60	W	2	...	...	...	...
Manila	...	29.76	756.0	90	72	NW	2	...	...	...	...
Legaspi	...	29.73	755.3	86	93	NNE	2	...	...	...	...
Calbayog	...	29.76	756.0	88	81	WNW	1	...	...	...	...
Tacloban	...	29.76	756.0	86	71	S	2	...	...	...	...
Iloilo	...	29.73	755.1	90	63	ENE	4	...	...	...	...
Cebu	...	29.73	755.1	90	60	NE	4	...	...	...	...
Surigao	...	29.75	755.7	86	76	NE	2	...	...	...	...
Saipan	11.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Guam	12.32	29.81	757.2	...	...	E	4	...	...	...	...
Yap	11.00	29.76	756.0	...	...	E	4	...	...	...	...
Pelew	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Labuan	14	29.81	757.2	86	72	W	4	...	...	...	...

June 19d. 10A. 25m.—A depression covers China and a trough of low pressure extends from the Philippines to Guam.

Hong Kong rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.61 inch. Total since January 1, 30.56 inches, against an average of 33.04 inches.

FORECAST FOR THE 24 HOURS ENDING AT NOON ON JUNE 20.

- DISTRICT.
- 1.—Formosa Channel
 - 2.—South coast of China between Hong Kong and Lamöcks
 - 3.—Hong Kong to Gap Rock
 - 4.—South coast of China between Hong Kong and Hainan
- S. winds, moderate; fair to showery.

FORECAST.

T. F. CLAXTON, Director.

HONG KONG METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

Hong Kong Observatory, June 19.

Barometer...	Previous (On Date) On Day at 4 p.m.	On Date On Day at 10 a.m.	On Date On Day at 4 p.m.
Barometer...	29.80	29.81	29.74
Temperature...	76	86	84
Humidity...	79	74	73

Highest open-air Temperature, 18.6; Lowest open-air Temperature, 19.7.

B=Blue sky; C=Cloudy; D=Drizzle; F=Fog; L=Lightning; M=Mist; O=Overcast; P=Passing showers; Q=Squalls; R=Rain; T=Thunder.

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HONG KONG TIDE TABLE.

From June 20 to 26, 1930.

HIGH WATER. LOW WATER.

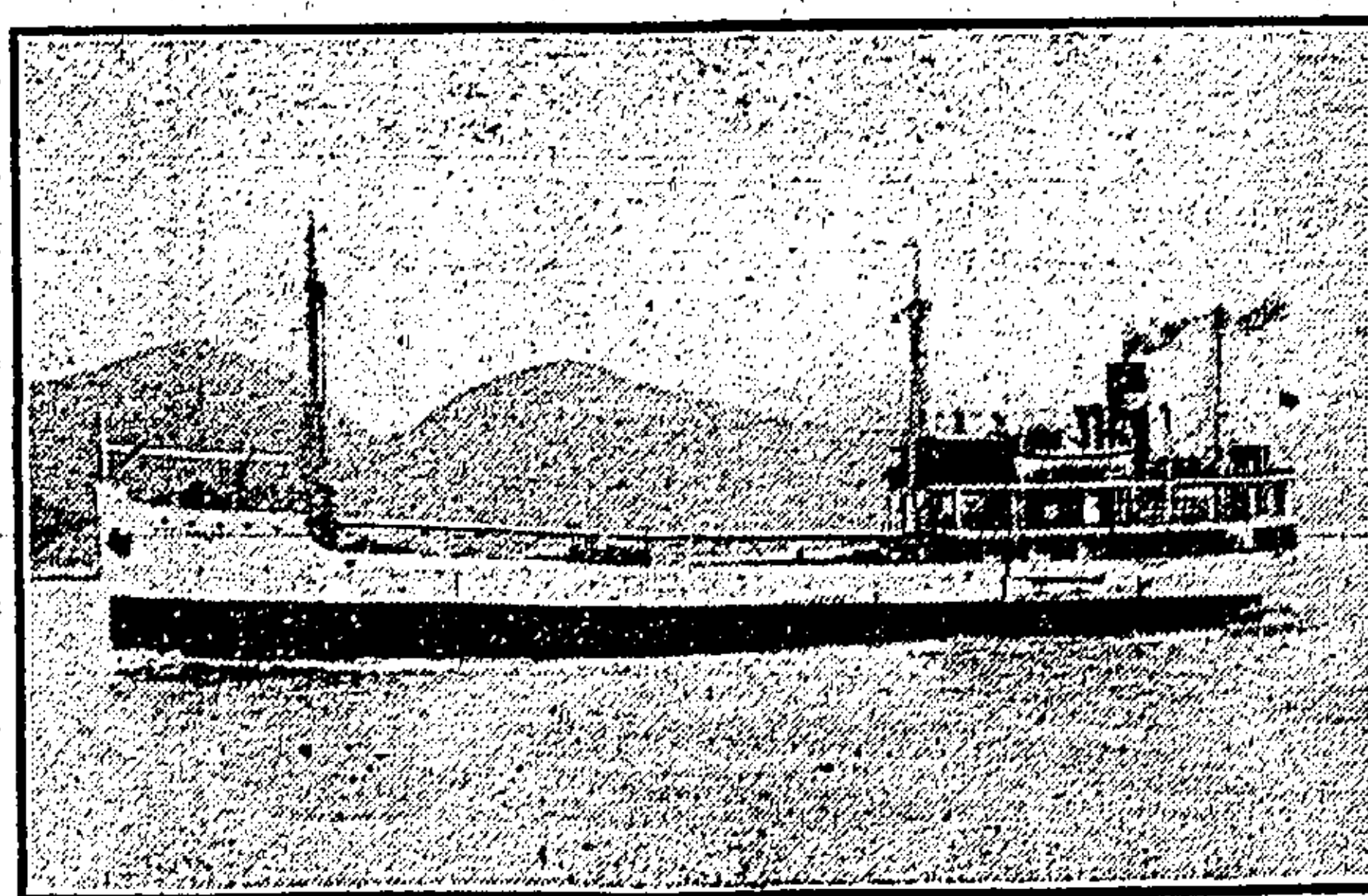
Days of Week	Date of Month	Hong Kong Standard Time	Height	Hong Kong Standard Time	Height
Fri.	20	5.21	4.5	10.28	8.9
Sat.	21	5.38	4.8	11.1	9.0
Sun.	22	5.54	5.0	11.58	9.3
Mon.	23	6.11	5.3	12.05	9.6
Tues.	24	6.28	5.6	12.52	9.9
Wed.	25	6.45	5.9	13.39	10.2
Thurs.	26	6.62	6.2	14.26	10.5

The Hong Kong & Whampoa Dock COMPANY, LIMITED.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "MANIFESTO," HONG KONG.

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R. M. DYER, B.Sc., M.I.N.A., Kowloon Dock, Hong Kong**INDO-CHINA**

STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATIONS.

To	STEAMSHIP	DATE
TSINGTAU via SWATOW & SHANGHAI	"HANGSANG" "YATSHING" "KWONGSANG" "CHAKSANG"	Sun., 22nd June, at 10 a.m. Wed., 25th June, at 10 a.m. Sun., 29th June, at 10 a.m. Wed., 2nd July, at 10 a.m.
SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA	"NAMSANG" "KUTSANG" "HOSANG"	Wed., 25th June, at 3 p.m. Tues., 26th June, at 3 p.m. Sat., 19th July, at 3 p.m.
OSAKA via AMOY & KOBE	"HOSANG"	Tues., 1st July, at 7 a.m.
OSAKA via AMOY, SHANGHAI & KOBE	"YUENSANG"	Wed., 9th July, at 7 a.m.
OSAKA via AMOY, MOJI & KOBE	"KUMSANG"	Fri., 13th July, at 7 a.m.
SANDAKAN	"HINSANG" "MAUSANG"	Thurs., 26th June, at 3 p.m. Sun., 6th July, at Noon
TIENTSIN via SWATOW & FOOCHEW	"CHEONGSHING" "CHITSHING"	Tues., 24th June, at 7 a.m. Fri., 11th July, at 7 a.m.

SUMMER TRIPS TO JAPAN.—Excellent First Class Accommodation on Through Steamers from CALCUTTA to JAPAN at the Specially Reduced Return Fares of \$175.00 to KIOS and \$200.00 to YOKOHAMA. These Return Tickets are available for Three Months. Further Reductions made for parties of Not Less Than Four Adults.

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[3]

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FARE, HONG KONG TO LONDON 222.

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Steamship "GLENIFFER" ... (Via Oran) ... 20th June

To SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA & VLADIVOSTOK.

Steamship "GLENSHANE" ... 29th June

Motor Vessel "GLENAPP" ... 4th July

Motor Vessel "GLENARRY" ... 18th July

Motor Vessel "GLENSHIELD" ... 1st Aug.

Steamship "GARNARVONSHIRE" ... 15th Aug.

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[1]

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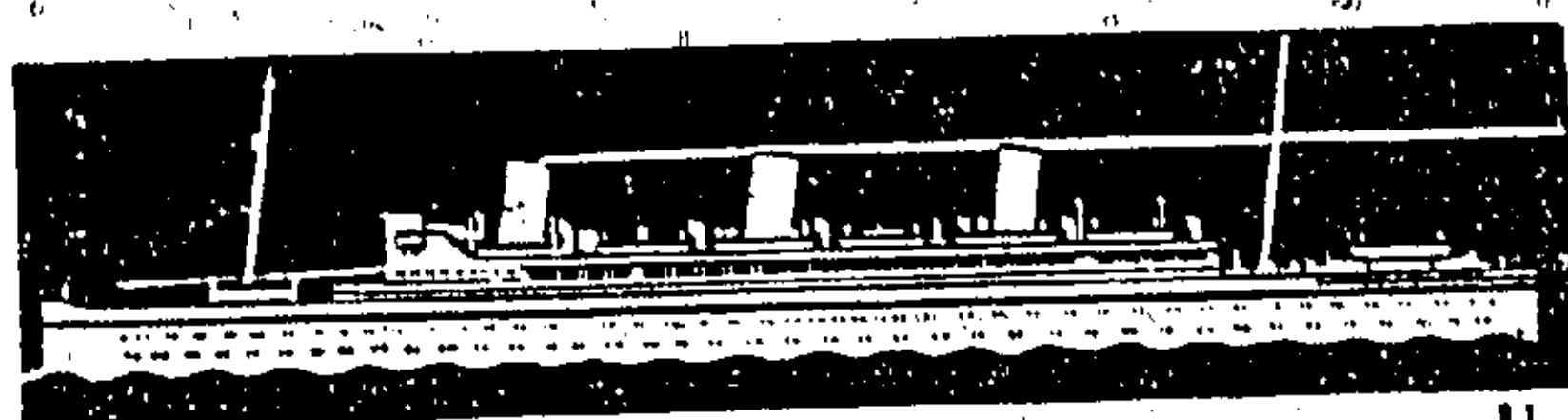
THROUGH BOOKINGS TO AMERICA VIA EUROPE

AND TO EUROPE VIA AMERICA.

NEXT SAILINGS TO EUROPE:—Express Freight S.S. "Aller" ... departure 23rd June
Pass. S.S. "COBLENZ" ... departure 27th June
Freight S.S. "Alster" ... departure 3rd July
Pass. M.S. "FULDA" (direct to Lisbon) departure 26th July
Freight S.S. "Witell" ... departure 4th Aug.

Passenger steamers sailing via Manila and Ports to Genoa, Rotterdam, Hamburg and Bremen.

Freight steamers sailing via Singapore and Ports to M



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ASAMA MARU ... Thursday, 3rd July
TAIYO MARU ... Sunday, 13th July
SEATTLE, VICTORIA via Shanghai & Japan Ports.
MISUMI MARU ... Friday, 20th June
SIBERIA MARU ... Saturday, 5th July
LONDON, MARSEILLES, ANTWERP, ROTTERDAM,
via Singapore, Penang, Colombo & Suez.
HAKOZAKI MARU ... Saturday, 28th June at 7 a.m.
TEIKOKU MARU ... Saturday, 19th July
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila & Ports.
TANGO MARU ... Tuesday, 24th June
OMBAY via Singapore, Penang & Colombo.
TOTTORI MARU ... Friday, 27th June
SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Japan, Honolulu,
Los Angeles, Mexico and Panama.
BOKUYO MARU ... Sunday, 29th June
SOUTH AMERICA (East Coast) via Singapore, Cape
Town & Ports.
KAMAKURA MARU ... Tuesday, 1st July
NEW YORK, BOSTON via PANAMA.
TATSUNO MARU ... Wednesday, 25th June
LIVERPOOL via Port Said, Stamboul (Constantinople),
Genoa & Marseilles.
DURBAN MARU ... Sunday, 20th July
CALCUTTA via Singapore, Penang & Rangoon.
TOKUSHIMA MARU ... Sunday, 23rd June
SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.
HARUNA MARU ... Sunday, 22nd June
CEYLON MARU (Moji direct) ... Sunday, 29th June
TAMBA MARU ... Monday, 30th June
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Shipping News Daily Statement, Waterfront News, etc.

YESTERDAY'S FREIGHT RETURNS.

IMPORTS 17,900 TONS;
THROUGH CARGO
29,400 TONS.

The returns, shown at the Harbour Office, of vessels carrying cargo to the Colony during the 24 hours ended at 9 a.m. yesterday were:—

British	Cargo for	Through
Teiresias, Yokohama	—	1,780
Pyrrhus, Glasgow	1,064	4,411
Sinking, Shanghai	300	300
Mirzapore, Bombay	403	3,348
Haiching, Foochow	320	—
Helikon, Saigon	7,600	—
	—	12,087
		10,318
German		
Franken, Hamburg	628	7,365
Havelland, Shanghai	—	4,750
	628	12,115
Danish		
Bintang, Bangkok	1,153	—
	—	1,153
Norwegian		
Tonjer, Sinawangao	2,582	2,102
Haibing, Singapore	300	—
	—	2,792
		2,102
Japanese		
Sumatra Maru, Moji	403	4,958
Rokko Maru, Sea	50	—
	—	453
		4,958
Chinese		
Chung On, Shanmi	15	—
Tak Hing, Macao	73	—
	—	90
		—
Total	17,201	29,491

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

The arrivals and departures during the period under review were:—

British	Arr.	Dep.
German	8	9
Danish	1	2
Norwegian	2	2
Japanese	2	1
Chinese	0	1
Dutch	0	1
French	0	1
Total	13	17

ASIATIC DECK PASSENGERS.

The following vessels brought Asiatic deck passengers to the Colony during the 24 hours ended at 9 a.m. yesterday:—

Sinking (Br.)	Shanghai	97
Haiching (Br.)	Foochow	139
Swatow	—	523
Helikon (Br.)	Saigon	—
Haibing (Nor.)	Singapore	631
Hoihow	—	50
Chung On (Chinese)	Shanmi	—
Total		1,340

WARSHIPS IN PORT.

British warships in port this morning were:—
Basilisk—Tamar, Thracian—West Wall—Sirdar.
No. 7 Buoy—Stormcloud.
Foreign Men of War—Portuguese cruiser Adamastor and gunboat Patria; American gunboat Helena.

ARRIVALS.

June 18.

Haidis, British str., 1,144 tons, Capt. C. Boyce, from Keelung, buoy No. C19.—Wei Kai Sing.
Hangaang, British str., 1,350 tons, Capt. C. H. Hatchings, from Canton, buoy No. C33.—J. M. & Co.
Pyrrhus, British str., 4,803 tons, Capt. T. G. Wilkinson, from Singapore, Holt's Wharf.—B. & So.
Sungshan Maru, Japanese str., 1,503 tons, Capt. G. Kawamura, from Canton, buoy No. C41.—N.Y.K.
Taikyū Maru, Japanese str., 1,503 tons, Capt. H. Fujii, from Canton, Yaumati.—Wada Jimusho.

June 19.

Bintang, Danish str., 1,725 tons, Capt. U. L. Reister, from Hoihow, buoy No. C17.—John Mann & Co.
Clara Jensen, Danish str., 1,145 tons, Capt. J. Davidson, from Saigon, buoy No. C43.—Chang Tong Ha.
Franken, German str., 4,820 tons, Capt. P. Kihnnemann, from Singapore, buoy No. A29.—Melchers & Co.
Hupei, British str., 1,803 tons, Capt. F. W. Jenkins, from Swatow, buoy No. B34.—B. & S.
Kaiapoi, British str., 1,247 tons, Capt. G. M. Wilkins, from Samarinda, Kowloon Bay.—Williamson & Co.
Mirzapore, British str., 8,715 tons, Capt. R. G. Axford, from Singapore, Kowloon Wharf.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Morca, British str., 10,934 tons, Capt. R. Holland, from London, Kowloon Wharf.—M. M. & Co.

Ningpo, British str., 1,223 tons, Capt. J. R. Nisbet, from Canton, buoy No. C19.—B. & S.

CLEARANCES.

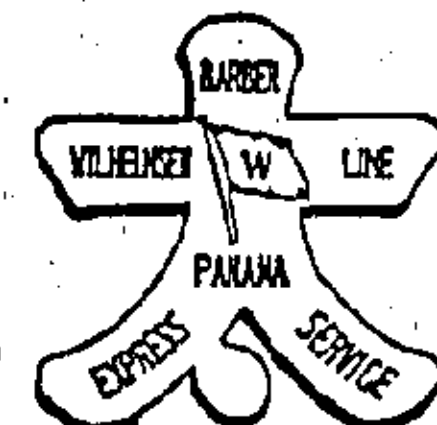
June 19.

Changte, for Manila.
Cheong On, for Bangkok.
Franken, for Shanghai.
Hai Hing, for Swatow.
Haidis, for Canton.
Hupei, for Canton.
Hydrangea, for Swatow.
Mirzapore, for Shanghai.
Mishima Maru, for Shanghai.
Morca, for Shanghai.
Pyrrhus, for Shanghai.
Sungshan Maru, for Swatow.
Taikyū Maru, for Hoihow.
Telemachus, for Saigon.
Tonjer, for Canton.

SHIPS IN HARBOUR.

The following vessels were in harbour yesterday:—
Wharves:—Kowloon: Sumatra Maru, Tatsuta Maru, Delagoa Maru; Holt's: Pyrrhus; Socony; Laichikok; Tai Yin; O.S.N.; Canton Maru; Douglas Laprak; Haiching.
Docks:—Kowloon: Foo Lee, Rital, Fooking; Taihook; Kaimi; Shing Cheong, Newchwang; Antung; Cosmopolitan; Helena, Namshing.
Buoys:—A1 Teiresias, A2 Ho Thong, A3 Gleniffer, A4 Tathibius, A5 Changte, A6 Mishimi Maru, B2 Taiyuan, B11 Kiungchow, B12 Telemachus, C15 Helikon, B21 Kaying, B24 Golden Hind, A29 Cremer, A29 Franken, B32 Cheong Shing, C33 Hopsang, B36 Yuan Lee, C37 Limchow, B39 Cheong On, C39 Hai Hing, C40 Paul Doumer, C41 Sungshan Maru, C42 Tai Fook Sing, B31 Hoihow Maru, C35 Tainan Maru, B34 Tonjer.

The S.S. Empress of Asia arrived at Manila on June 19, leaves Manila on June 20 is due at Hong Kong on June 22.



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S.S. "CITY OF CORINTH" ... London, Rotterdam & Hamburg ... 8th July

NEW YORK, BOSTON & BALTIMORE AMERICAN AND MAURITIUS LINE

S.S. "CITY OF BOMBAY" ... 10th July

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M.V. "OAKBANK" ... 8th July

MAURITIUS & SOUTH AFRICA ORIENTAL AFRICAN LINE

S.S. "TINHOW" ... 4th August

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GREECE, LEVANTINE PORTS, EUROPE, ETC.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL PORTS
DIRECT ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS.
(Under Contract with H.M. Government.)

Steamship	Tons	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
"BANPUA"	16,801	21st June, Noon	Bombay, Marseilles & London.
"LABORE"	8,304	28th June (Mar.)	London, Hull, H'g, R'dm & A'w'p.
"KABALA"	9,128	3rd July	Mar., Lvon, R'm, R'dm & A'w'p.
"MORA"	10,954	19th July	Bombay, Marseilles & London.
"JEYPORE"	5,518	28th July (Mar.)	L'don, Hull, H'g, R'dm & A'w'p.
"KALYAN"	3,144	2nd Aug.	Mar., L'don, Hull, H'g, R'dm & A'w'p.
"RAJPUTANA"	16,648	18th Aug.	Bombay, Marseilles & London.
"KASHMIR"	8,955	30th Aug.	Marseilles, L'don, R'dm & A'w'p.
"MANTUA"	10,946	13th Sept.	Bombay, Marseilles & London.
"KASHGAR"	9,005	27th Sept.	Marseilles, L'don, R'dm & A'w'p.
"MALWA"	10,980	11th Oct.	Marseilles & London.
"KEYBER"	8,114	23rd Oct.	Marseilles, L'don, R'dm & A'w'p.
"MACEDONIA"	10,954	8th Nov.	Bombay, Marseilles & London.
"RAJWALPINDI"	11,120	22nd Nov.	do.
"KALYAN"	16,619	6th Dec.	Mars, L'don, R'dm, & A'w'p.
	9,144	20th Dec.	do.
"RANCHI"	16,650	8th Jan.	Marseilles & London.
"KASHMIR"	8,955	17th Jan.	do.
"MALWA"	10,980	31st Jan.	do.

* Cargo only.

Frequent connections from Port Said for Passengers and Cargo to Constantinople, Piræus, Smyrna, and other Levant Ports by steamers of the Khedivial Mail Steamship Co.

BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS

"TAKADA"	9,849	21st June, 3 p.m.	Singapore, Penang & Calcutta
"TALMA"	10,000	28th June	do.
"SEIKALA"	7,841	3rd July	do.
"TAKLIWA"	7,806	15th July	do.
"TILAWA"	10,008	8th Aug.	do.
"TALAMBA"	8,018	18th Aug.	do.
"TALMA"	10,000	31st Aug.	do.

B.I.—Apar Line steamers have excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class passengers. All steamers are fitted with wireless and carry a qualified surgeon.

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (SOUTH)

"ST. ALBANS"	4,500	4th July	Manila, Sandakan, Thursday
"NELLORE"	6,833	3rd Aug.	Island, Townsville, Brisbane,
"TANDA"	6,985	6th Sept.	Sydney and Melbourne

Regular Monthly Sailings from Hong Kong to Japan & Hong Kong to Australia. The E. & A. S.S. Co., Ltd., steamers will also call at Shanghai, Hio, Ooba, Kolambagan, Tawao, Timor, Darwin, or other ports en route as indicated on the following:—

Frequent connections from Australia with the following:—
The Union S.S. Co.'s Steamers to the United Kingdom via New Zealand & Vancouver, San Francisco, etc.
The P. & O. Royal Mail Steamers to London via Suez Canal.
The P. & O. Branch Service of Steamers to London via the Cape.
The New Zealand Shipping Co.'s Steamers to Southampton and London via Panama Canal.

SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI AND JAPAN

"MOREA"	10,554	20th June, Noon	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
"TAKLIWA"	7,806	28th June	Amoy, Shanghai, Kobe & Osaka.
"KALYAN"	3,144	4th July	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
"NELLORE"	6,833	8th July	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
"RAJPUTANA"	16,648	18th July	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
"TILAWA"	10,008	19th July	Amoy, Kobe & Osaka.
"TALAMBA"	8,018	29th July	do.
"KASHMIR"	8,955	1st Aug.	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
"BORDA"	10,000	18th Aug.	Amoy, Kobe & Osaka.
"TALMA"	10,000	18th Aug.	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
"KASHGAR"	9,005	29th Aug.	do.
"BIRHIMA"	—	30th Aug.	Shanghai & Kobe.
"MALWA"	10,980	12th Sept.	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
"KEYBER"	8,114	20th Sept.	do.
"MACEDONIA"	10,954	10th Oct.	do.
"RAJWALPINDI"	11,120	24th Oct.	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
"KALYAN"	16,619	7th Nov.	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
"RANCHI"	16,650	22nd Nov.	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
"KASHMIR"	8,955	5th Dec.	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
		1931	
"MALWA"	10,980	2nd Jan.	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
"KASHGAR"	9,005	17th Jan.	do.
"MOREA"	10,554	31st Jan.	do.
"MACEDONIA"	11,120	14th Feb.	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
"RAJWALPINDI"	16,619	28th Feb.	Amoy, Kobe & Yokohama.
"KALYAN"	9,144	14th Mar.	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
"RAJPUTANA"	16,648	27th Mar.	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.
"KALYAN"	9,144	10th Apr.	Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.

* Cargo only.

+ Calls at Tientsin and Wei-hai-wei.

All dates are approximate and subject to alteration without notice. WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY FITTED ON ALL STEAMERS. Passengers for Baggage and Luggage must pay their own Hotel expenses at Singapore while waiting for the carrying steamer. All cabins are fitted with Electric Fans free of charge. Steamers on London and Australian Lines are fitted with Laundries. Parcels measuring not more than 24 ft. x 3 ft. x 1 ft. will be received at the Company's Office up to Noon on the day previous to sailing. For further information, Passage Fares, Freight, Handbooks, etc., apply to:—

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